

THE PENMAN'S PENMANSHIP

DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICAL AND THE ORNAMENTAL IN PENMANSHIP

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The Artist Penman.

BY PAUL PARRISH.

The artist penman. Has the full force of this italicized word reached our thoughts, as we encounter it again and again, on the familiar face of our JOURNAL? We are apt to slur over the little subject, and flinger upon the more pretentious noun, which some of us have so often appended to our own carelessly flourished and elaborately designed names. We would not, I fear, be very indignant if Mr. Ames should change the title of his paper and call it merely the PENMAN'S JOURNAL. We should miss the elegant adjective very little, and if our attention were especially directed to its mission, I think we would say, "Oh, it's a very small matter, which doesn't concern me in the least. 'What's in a name, any way?'"

But stop a moment. Put your hand over the great noun "Penman," and look at its companion. Picture to yourself all the beautiful and good things which your memory and your æsthetic consciousness connect with the word "artist." Summon up all those vigors and general, but marvelously beautiful, conceptions, which I defy any cultivated man to evade when he takes this word thoughtfully upon his lips. Then uncover the hidden noun, and while you detect not one note from its significance, connect with it the ideas which you have gained from the study of its adjective. Does not the richness of meaning in that beautiful title "Artist Penman" come almost exclusively from the very word which you would have ignored? Mr. Ames, it seems to me, in a diplomatic sense, executed one of his exquisite pen-pictures, in the stroke of policy which led him to call his new publication the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, instead of "Journal of Penmanship," or some other modification of the title. There is a dignity, a richness, a completeness in the words which attract one's appreciative faculties at the outset. The inspired consciousness of the soul craves just such recognition. Every person of ordinary ability is a genius in embryo. He has the same longings, the same emotions, the same spiritualized perceptions which make the man a poet, a painter, a musician, a philosopher, a statesman. The only difference between him and the idols of the world's wonder

and adoration, lies in his inability to express those emotions of soul by which he is akin to all humanity. Many a noble spirit has tortured itself into imbecility by vain endeavors to extract from the inmost depths the glories and the aspirations there concealed. Genius is simply the faculty of expression. If it were otherwise, and the souls of men had no share in its inspirations, how very soon would the loftiest heights of art go beggared to their graves. What response would there be to the magic of art? Only those few angels among men could sympathize with one another, and even they, if there were no ability of genius, could extend their affection only to works which were kindred with their own.

Genius is a pulse-beat of the universal human heart, and whatever is beautiful, and good, and true, finds grateful recognition and acceptance there.

In a previous article I have attempted to show the true dignity and loftiness of the penman's art. In this sketch I shall try to present some of the beautiful and almost countless influences which it possesses and exercises.

If I were asked to define art in a single word, I should call it *harmony*. No creation of genius ever escaped crumbling into forgotten dust that did not have music in its parts. No technucian can restrict art. It is unbounded. A Praxiteles in stone or better may be as artistic as a Praxiteles in marble. The semblance of a traid favor may be as perfect and unapproachably beautiful as that of the grandest Grecian god. Art finds its expression as fully and completely in penmanship, as it does in sculpture. If art is harmony, what can be more harmonious than the flowing symmetry of a calligraphical style? The eye must ever sparkle over such marvels of grace and skill as emanate from the pens of some of our masters-to-day. I have often questioned why, with all its beauty and popularity, penmanship has not taken a higher rank among the fine arts. I trust that I shall not be obliged to wait long for my reply. Even now it is gaining upon the good will of men. Instead of classing it altogether among the good old practicalities of forefether days, the age is beginning to conceive a more exalted respect and a truer admiration for this infant art. May it increase in character and reputation, as the years war ripe, until the ARTIST PENMAN shall become one of our dem-gods, and stand among the laureled of earth.

Senator Wade's Penmanship.

The late ex-Senator Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio, resided in Jefferson, the county seat of Ashtabula County, and was contemporary with F. R. Spencer. Mr. Wade was a person of a type quite different from Mr. Spencer, as the following story, related of the former by the latter, will illustrate.

Judge Rufus P. Ranney, now of Cleveland, was for several years associated with Mr. Wade in the practice of law. Mr. Ranney wrote legibly and neatly, on which

he prided himself. Mr. Wade's writing was not only unsightly but illegible to such a degree as to occasion great loss of time and annoyance in attempting to read it.

Judge R., having one day lost his patience over a particularly bad lot of Wade's manuscript, called that gentleman to account and severely censured him for the trouble he caused.

Wade received the reprimand with due meekness, and then said to Judge Ranney, "If you will set me a copy I will see if I can't mend my hand." Accordingly Ranney wrote a copy and Wade sent himself to his task. After a time Ranney came around to see how Wade was getting along. Casting his critical eye over Wade's work he said that if Wade would write like that they could read it well enough. Looking down the page he saw that Wade had departed from the matter of the copy, and at once said to him that he had misspelled half his words. Said Wade in reply, "That is what comes of writing legibly—let me write my own way and I shall be as well as anybody."

Mr. Wade's early education was obtained, so far as books were concerned, by studying nights by the light of a huge open fire in a log cabin, after a hard day's toil in clearing away the heavy forests of Northern Ohio, of which he was one of the pioneers. This was also true of F. R. Spencer.

The early circumstances and surroundings of these two men were much the same, but they were widely different in texture and organization.

Mr. Wade was distinguished for rigid strength and force of character, coupled with great honesty of purpose that often took rough forms of expression.

Mr. Spencer was moulded more exquisitely and of finer material. His nature was keenly susceptible to the impressions and aspirations of the beautiful which he drank in among the forests, along the streams and by the shores of Lake Erie from boyhood up. His physical organization combined debility and strength with the finest and most graceful action; he would have made a splendid athlete. He could throw a smooth thin oval stone out over the waters of Lake Erie an incredible distance, giving to its line of motion through the air curves of marvelous grace.

Doubtless Mr. Spencer's achievements in the art of writing were due as much to his physical organization as to his mental endowments.

Mr. Wade had an appreciation of the beautiful in writing, though unable to produce it.

He would frequently drop into Mr. Spencer's office and seating himself by his side spend some time in admiring the writing which was Mr. S. work product.

Mr. Wade was left-handed, but used his right hand for writing, which may account partly for his bad penmanship.

Mr. Wade was somewhat noted for dry humor. It cropped out on one occasion when he walked into Mr. Spencer's office bringing with him his two young sons, and addressing Mr. S. said: "Since I am too

busy to instruct these young gentlemen in penmanship myself, I will ask you to do me the favor to take them in charge."

On another occasion, Mr. Wade speaking seriously of the education of his sons and of his own lack of early educational advantages, said that he had suffered so much on account of his bad handwriting that he intended that his sons should learn to write if they learned nothing else.

Mr. Spencer gave little attention to the ornamental branches of penmanship, but occasionally flourished an eagle, swan, pen, or something of that kind.

Mr. Wade took a droll fancy for some of these flourishes, carried them to his office, and after a while brought back a quantity of his own ornamental work in exchange. Needless to say that "they were fearfully and wonderfully made." Mr. Wade's artistic productions adorned the walls for some time and afforded much amusement.

Blunders in Learning to Write.

BY PROF. H. RUSSELL, COLLEGE, ILL.

There is no greater error committed by teachers of penmanship than carelessness in selecting writing materials. That the efforts of many a hard-working teacher have proved futile and worse than a failure by an oversight in this, the basis and foundation of a good hand-writing, is a palpable fact in the observation of every teacher of penmanship of any experience. That their efforts should be purely in vain many cases through lack of experience is excusable; but what shall we say of the teacher who ignores materials altogether and proclaims to the world with an arrogant swagger that he can write well with any pen and any paper, and can teach his pupils to do the same in twelve short lessons with his system, which he says is as much ahead of the Spencerian, or any other standard system, as day is ahead of night. Now, experience has taught us that whatever was worth doing at all is worth doing well. Were a builder to tell us that poor materials were as good as the best, we would consider him an utter humbug, if not a knave, and would be very careful how we employed him to construct anything in that line. And upon the same principle ought we not to look with suspicion upon any impostor who claims to accomplish impossibilities in this all important branch of education.

Skillful Penmanship Practically Applied to Business.

By the introduction of the various photographic methods of reproduction of pen-drawings, the skillful pen artist has gained a widely extended field of labor. His drawings are at once transferred, by photo-engraving, to relief plates for common printing, or to stone for lithography. Among the most noted for successful workers in this line is D. T. Ames, artist penman, 205 Broadway. We have seen many things reproduced from his pen work that were never exhibited as such, in accuracy and elegance, steel engraving, while being upon relief plates their advantage for convenience and cost of printing is very great. —*American Machine.*

THE SCULPTOR BOY.

Chisel in hand stood the sculptor boy,
With his marble block before him;
And his face lit with a smile of joy
As he carved the dream on the yielding stone.
He cared that it came from the yielding stone
With many a sharp tool's touch.
In heaven's own light the sculptor shone.
He had caught that angel vision,
Sculpture of life as we stand,
With our lives uncarved before us;
Waiting the hour when he'd command,
Our life's dream passed on us.
And he carved it then on the yielding stone,
With many a sharp tool's touch.
He carved it then on the yielding stone,
With many a sharp tool's touch.
He carved it then on the yielding stone,
With many a sharp tool's touch.

Some "Suggestive" Suggestions

By R. H. STATTUE.

I regret that I am not able to present the article I designed for this number, other pressing duties having separated me from the material indispensable to its production.

In its place I propose to make some suggestions brought to my mind by the perusal of various articles in the JOURNAL.

In common with others, the reading of these articles has brought to mind points not discussed or not thought of by the writer. For instance, the article in the February number, "Hints to the Teacher of Writing," which, I presume, suggested the one in the March JOURNAL, "Traveling Penmen," has brought to my notice some things I think may be worth mentioning for the benefit of the younger members of the profession.

From the fact of both articles it might be inferred that the "Traveling Penman" having concluded his lesson, with credit to himself and profit to his patrons, was expected

"To fall up his tent like the Arabs,
And so slantly sleep away."

never again to appear in the immediate neighborhood, depending on his "good clothes, pleasing manner, and liberal advertising" for his success on his first and only visit.

While a suitable dress, pleasing manner and liberal method of advertising are all aids to success, we do not quite accept their potency, or agree that they are any more indicative of true merit than of rascality. A case in point comes from an Eastern paper.

"He was a gentlemanly appearing man, with his smooth speech and pleasant manner, succeeded in organizing quite a creditable writing school. Obtaining from pupils advance pay, opening accounts with several printing establishments, he suddenly disappeared from the city, apparently forgetting alike to keep his contracts with his pupils, and to pay his rent and advertising bills."

It seems to me that if a certain number of towns and cities were revisited, from time to time, so that a really good teacher might establish himself as an honest man as well as good teacher, independent of the good clothes and liberal advertising, not only could much more effective work be done, but true teachers of writing could establish themselves on a much more satisfactory basis.

I think now that as Commercial Colleges of good repute are established at all business centers, to which are drawn young men from the surrounding country, villages, and smaller cities, it would be a wise policy for them to encourage such traveling penmen as they may have confidence in to visit periodically such villages and cities once, twice or three times a year, according to the size of the place and interest taken, giving a series of lessons each visit. The advantages are, that many persons would send their children did they know the instruction commenced could be continued. The teacher feels his future success will depend on present efforts; soon he becomes identified with the people, and his visits are looked forward to with pleasure by the children; instead of drifting over the great sea of humanity as a float whom nobody owns and for whom nobody cares, he is soon looked up to with respect and confidence, both in his profession and as a man, and this fact alone

gives him better thoughts of himself and an increased watchfulness not to lose the good of those that have given him their support. The Commercial College is benefited, because his instruction will develop some latent talent that will not be satisfied with the limited amount of commercial instruction likely to be gained in a writing class.

This brings me to another point suggested by articles in the JOURNAL, in relation to a National Business Convention, which, I judge, is to include all teachers of book-keeping and writing in good repute.

There seems to be a lack of cohesion, sympathy, and a proper appreciation of each other among persons of these classes, and each one drifts about as wind or tide may carry him. A convention at any given point could not bring together as an advance rank and file of the profession, nevertheless I endorse all that has been said in favor of it, because, if held yearly at different points in time, a large number could be brought within its influence. In connection with this convention I would like to suggest another thing which it seems might reach and interest every penman in the land. In my position as a "traveler" I am eligible, and am a member of the "Commercial Traveler's Association," which has brought about for commercial travelers just what I should like to see done for traveling penmen. The Commercial Traveler's Association numbers now some two thousand, five hundred members.

Its object, briefly stated, besides a source of more general acquaintance and mutual protection, is life insurance. Two dollars is collected of each member as an advance payment, and at the death of any member an assessment of two dollars is ordered as an advance assessment for the next death, so that nearly \$5,000 is now realized by the families of deceased members.

To organize such a society, and keep it running with such a scattered membership, is not as difficult as might at first appear. I would make the dues so small as not to tax too severely the most slender income. I would make the dues so small as not to require of most of us, members of the profession who have gone to their last rest wrapped in the mantle of poverty, not from any fault of their own that reflects upon their habits or their honesty, to whose families a few hundred dollars would be little less than a god-send.

I do not think that the probable objection that such an organization would go to prove after a few assessments any objection true; for it is a kind of lottery in which all could afford to draw blanks and cherish the memory of those who drew cash prizes without envy. If five hundred could be found willing to pay \$1 each at each death, or one thousand to pay 50 cents each it would give \$500 to the family of the deceased member. This would not be much to the very few millionaires in the profession, but to the bulk of the membership it would be a most welcome contribution. I write these suggestions for the consideration of the readers of the JOURNAL. The success and great amount of good accomplished by an organization such as I have outlined above has induced me to suggest the formation of one for the benefit of teachers of book-keeping and writing.

The fact that this is already established on a good foundation a paper (THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL) that could be the organ of communication between the society and its members is another point towards its consummation. And still another reason is that nearly all professions are forming similar societies from which the itinerant teacher of writing or book-keeping is excluded.

Since then as there is no society or organization for mutual aid or protection we can enter as a class, let us form one of our own.

In the foregoing articles Mr. Shatkin touches upon two subjects, which, for a long time, have been near to our heart, viz.: a penman's convention and a mutual benefit, life insurance association.

We hope to see, and shall spare no effort upon our part, to have both become accomplished facts at the earliest practical date. It was our purpose to enlarge upon those subjects in the present number, but so many lengthy communications concerning the proposed convention have been received that we are necessarily abridged for the present.—En.

Business College Convention.

GREAT WESTERN BUSINESS COLLEGE,
CHICAGO, March 20, 1878.

Prof. D. T. Ames:

DEAR Sir—I notice a very able and enthusiastic communication from the pen of "L. L. Sprague" in reference to a penman's "Convention." I am also favorable to this project, and am confident that it would result in much good to the profession in general and its members in particular. Fraternization has proved beneficial to the minister, the physician, the artisan and laborer, and, I believe, would prove alike profitable to the pen artist. These associations will have a tendency to diminish egotism, selfishness and jealousy, while they will increase sympathy and liberality. It will cause us to labor for the good of all, and feel how insignificant one is, isolated from his fellows.

Penmen in general are credited with being egotistic and jealous, which I believe to be true to a certain extent. This is all wrong, and would in a great degree be overcome by coalition and fraternization.

Few men and Business College professors seem to realize the fallacious idea that those engaged in the same work are natural enemies, and that, in order to thrive, a constant warfare must be carried on by way of beating ability, vilifying character, and criticizing work.

There should be no conflict between penmen, nor between business colleges; the hand is broad enough, and there is a good demand for able penmen and successful teachers. We are apt not to feel grateful if a similar institution should start within a few hundred miles, nor feel aggrieved if during our State Fair some other institution should come to compete for premiums. We ought to be a little greedy and stake out a large territory, and feel that our rights are encroached upon if a competitor comes within its bounds.

Fair and legitimate opposition is the life of trade, whether in teaching or elsewhere. Our business requires argument and illustration to convince the people that we are teaching the branches that are most useful. Not long since a well-known and efficient penman requested of me an endorsement of his ability and character. I sent him an unprejudiced and honest testimonial, setting forth what I knew to be the truth. This so surprised the recipient that he wrote an acknowledgment, stating that "my endorsement was so warm and so full of praise that he must say I had departed from the general rule, for penmen were so jealous of each other that such a manifestation of brotherly feeling was indeed a surprise."

I had long felt that this was so, but was loth to proclaim it, for fear it might be a misconception, but when the same idea was expressed as a fact by an old veteran it surely was made some foundation.

Now I claim that a convention will do away with these petty jealousies and ill-feelings, when it is found that "Unity is strength," and that we are all dependent upon each other. Every teacher has a way peculiar to himself to explain and illustrate an idea, and perhaps original. It is not expected that all will be strikingly original in all the various branches taught in the commercial school.

Originally generally arisen from a thorough knowledge acquired by deep research and long experience. In teaching we often

find that we can improve upon the methods of an author. We are not original on all subjects, but may be so on some. The convention will be a make-up of a diversified originality, which will there be ventilated, and the country at large will reap the reward. Each member will go home and tell his class about how A. did this and C. did that, and you will be the more thetic for it was endorsed by the convention.

We must inevitably become dissatisfied with a principle before seeking to improve it, and in the course of an improvement we are sometimes led to the discovery of an entirely new idea which cannot be made to assimilate with the old; we then find that we shall have to abandon the project or become an author. The progress of civilization is marked by these little episodes in the lives of individuals, and the world's history is a record of the facts. The arts and sciences owe their development to them, and the natural disposition of mankind to pry into the secrets of nature and unfold her principles and laws.

I only apprehend one difficulty in carrying out this project, and that is the necessary expense. The place of meeting will be a great deal to do, no lightening of increasing state, and you will be a constant of one fact, viz., that the majority of those engaged in the business are not millionaires; in fact have to study more or less economy, and deny themselves many pleasures and luxuries. As yet the convention could not be considered in any other light than a luxury—at least not a necessity. Distance and expense will be a great objection. One of the grand objects in view in choosing the place will be to accommodate as many as possible, and in order to do that we must choose the center of some established boundary. The Pacific slope cannot be reckoned within this circuit. In glancing at the map, and knowing those States which contain many penmen, we find Iowa on the west, New York (an approximation) on the east, Wisconsin on the north, and Louisiana on the south. The most accessible center of this radius would be Cincinnati, Ohio, or Frankfort, Kentucky. This would not accommodate our neighbor in the "Dominion." I am fearful we will all be so selfish and exacting as to want it at our own doors, in which case it would destroy the possibility of ever convening. This is no new theory, but was talked of when Conover published the "Western Penman" at Coldwater, Michigan, but we now have the ART JOURNAL, which reaches all the principal penmen of the country, to champion our cause and have access to its columns to talk the matter up with one another, and if we do not succeed I have overestimated the energy and practicality of the fraternity.

In regard to the temporary organization we can proceed as if in an assembly, by nominating some one for president, &c., through the columns of the JOURNAL. After the officers are elected it will be in order to settle the place of meeting. The time to settle to suit all would be July or August.

Someone must make a bold strike for liberty, and perhaps die ignominiously as a martyr. I hereby put in nomination the name of S. S. Packard, of New York, for temporary president, and Daniel T. Ames for secretary of the contemplated Penman's Convention. All who are in favor of this choice will make it known through the columns of the JOURNAL, or by expeditious letters, to me personally by letter. I desire that every penman and Business College professor shall express his approval or disapproval of my course and choice of officers.

"Procrastination is the thief of time." Wake up, gentlemen, from your "Tip Van Winkle" nap; it is time for action. Some would say, "I am not too hasty, give us time to think." I say not so; impulsive, first impressions are most lasting. One of the characteristics of Napoleon was im-

pulse; on this depended his success. Hoping that penmen, &c., will feel interested in this matter, and resort to immediate action.

I am, very respectfully,
GEORGE R. RATHBON.
Omaha, March 18, 1878.

COLORADO ACADEMY AND BUSINESS
COLLEGE, DENVER, COL.,
March 16, 1878.

Prof. D. T. Ames:

For articles by Professors Packard and Sprague, together with the editorial comments in the December and March numbers of the *ART JOURNAL*, advocating a Business College Convention, have enlisted my attention, and the movement should, I believe, enlist the hearty co-operation of every progressive and broad minded teacher of book-keeping and penmanship in America.

I for one am cordially in favor of the idea, and will gladly render full share of pecuniary assistance for organizing and holding such a convention, and what appears to me to be mostly wanted for perfecting the arrangements is earnest co-operation, backed by funds, to meet the usual expenses of such undertakings. In order to secure these two essential requirements I desire to offer the following suggestions, which, although they may not be thought to be at all expedient, will perhaps bring out further comment and discussion:

First, I would suggest that a circular letter be issued calling for a convention setting forth its objects, and the same sent to every teacher of book-keeping and penmanship in the United States, whose name could be secured; and second, that there should be enclosed with the call a blank, to be filled up by the recipient, and which would be an agreement to attend the convention either in person or by proxy, and also to contribute the sum of, say ten dollars, for meeting the current expenses of holding the convention.

In regard to the place of holding the convention I would suggest that it be taken to the city which would offer the most liberal inducements, and in this connection I will add that should Denver, Colorado, be deemed a suitable point, I will propose to furnish a hall as free as air to almost any city, with seating capacity for one hundred free for as many days and nights as may be wanted, and, in addition thereto, will contribute the sum of one hundred dollars towards defraying the current expenses; and further, I will see that delegates to the convention shall have no excursion rates offered them.

I might offer some argument in favor of Denver, but the proposition is not made with that object, and I would say, with Professor Sprague, let the place be anywhere, but, above all, let us have the convention.

In furtherance of what has been already said, and to put the matter in a more substantial form, I will propose to be one of the men who should become personally responsible for the cost of organizing or calling such a convention through printing and distributing the necessary documents, reciting such cost does not exceed one hundred dollars, and will nominate Prof. D. T. Ames as organizer, with power to issue a call and to make the best arrangements possible as to time and place for holding the Convention.

All of which is cheerfully submitted for the consideration and criticism of the craft by,
Yours most respectfully,
SELDEN R. HOPKINS.

Editor of *Penman's Art Journal*:

Sir—You have been kind enough to ask for the opinion of those who favor the holding of a Penmen's and Commercial Teachers' Convention. Since my brief suggestion on this subject in the February number of your paper, I have received a number of

personal communications asking my views and I have responded as I have had the leisure, and I have been no less delighted than astonished to know how deep a hold the idea is taking of the very persons who are best fitted to make of such a meeting a real success. No doubt you are overwhelmed with communications on the subject, and I have little hope that you will find space for the few hints which are herein submitted.

In the first place, I am sure there has never been a time in the history of commercial education when a convention of the *workers* was more needed; never a time when good results were so sure to flow from a comparison of views and methods. What is much needed by the individual teachers of our specialty is a personal acquaintance with each other, and such a knowledge of the ideas and processes in vogue as can be gained only by actual contact one with the other. Of all people in the world teachers are most apt to work in worn grooves, and to grow narrow, exclusive, bigoted, and self-sufficient. And the reason is obvious, confined as they are to set, unvarying duties, holding communion only with books and the adolescent minds of those whose function it is to receive much and give little in return, the teacher, whether he would or not, becomes a sort of treadmill worker, and after a while gets into ruts that grow deeper and deeper as he becomes more earnest in his labors. Except in larger institutions employing corps of teachers, there is little or no opportunity of knowing what others do, and the teacher is thrown, as it were, upon his inner consciousness for the spur to development, and in this regard no class of

proper persons appointed to prepare these and practical methods for the consideration of the body. This, of course, would involve a large amount of labor for somebody, and if it is to be done, not a moment should be lost. The time or place of holding the convention should be settled without delay, and the proper committees set at work. As to the time and place, I may have my preferences, but I don't feel like arguing them against any one's better convictions. If the majority should prefer New York as the place, and the month of August as the time, I could not find one word to say against it, and if any other conclusion should prevail, I need gladly acquiesce. I will only say that so far as room and incidental expenses are concerned, I should be most happy to relieve the convention if it is decided to be held in this city. There are also more potent arguments which I could present, but they will doubtless present themselves to all who incline to the enterprise.

My main wish in the matter is that the convention will be held *somewhere*, and that I may have the happiness of being present.

In order to crystallize the matter I propose that Mr. Ames should at once prepare a circular covering such points as may seem to him likely to elicit the wishes of teachers, giving to each the privilege of voting upon the important questions involved:

1. As to place and time of meeting.
2. As to the order of exercises.
3. As to the preliminary working committees, and within a reasonable time let him embody the sentiment in a circular which shall be conclusive as to the call



schools have suffered so much as commercial schools proper. These drawbacks to progress in the right direction would be overcome by a free and full intercommunication between the *real* workers. There have been conventions of more or less note, and more or less achievement of good by the owners and managers of business colleges; but the fault with all such comes together has been the tendency to discuss the financial phase of the subject, or the best means of bringing the enterprises to favorable public notice. I don't say that to other subjects have been discussed, and I am free to say that through these conventions a vast amount of good has been accomplished in the way of education proper. But what is wanted now is not a convention of schools, but of *teachers*. We who are in the business want to know just what others are doing in the way of *imparting instruction*, leaving wholly out of view the process of "running colleges." This an opinion should be the impetus and key-note of the convention.

Teachers of penmanship, for example, should take with them their own best work if they choose, but more especially the work of the students whom they have taught, and the views which the work of teaching has wrought out in their brains. Whoever has valuable gifts of work or thought let him come and lay it upon the altar, that all may profit thereby. So of other branches of study—book-keeping, arithmetic, commercial law, &c. Let us know the *best* that is being done in this country to advance our important specialty.

A convention, to cover these points, should continue, if possible, two weeks, and the time should be religiously devoted to the consideration of the *best methods of teaching*. But in order that it should have character and cohesiveness the work should be carefully laid out in advance, and the

of the project, and of the time and the place, that can and will attend, notify you of the fact and give their views on the subject, not later than May 15, and that on the success of the affair being ascertained in point of numbers, you issue circulars of instruction to those who are going to attend, and they will be on hand all prepared for the fray, I know.

Yours truly,
HENRY C. WRIGHT.

J. B. Cunniff, Soule's Commercial College, New Orleans, C. E. Cady, of Cady, Willough & Walworth's Business College, New York, H. Russell of Joliet, Ill., Business College, and many others have expressed themselves as strongly in favor of the movement. A *Penman's convention* is now a *fact*, it only remains to determine upon the time, place, and the details, for its consummation. In order to present the matter to the fraternity, in a tangible, and practical form, and to enable each member to have a fair and equal voice in deciding upon the preliminaries we propose the following

PLAN:

Let each person who deems himself eligible (from being either a teacher or author of writing or book-keeping) and who desires to take part in such convention, at once, on the receipt of the present number of the *JOURNAL*, answer briefly by card or letter, addressed to the *JOURNAL*, each of the following questions, viz:

1. Will you attend the convention?
2. Where do you desire it to be held?
3. When?

4. Name committee on preliminaries, and order of exercises.

Answers to the above questions, will determine fairly and impartially the place, time and plan for holding the convention, and approximately the number that will attend the same.

Answers to which will be announced through the columns of the next number of the *JOURNAL*. Immediate, definite and authorized action can then be taken to carry into effect the wishes of the majority, as thus expressed.

We especially urge that there be no delay in responding. We take it for granted, that wherever the convention may be held, parties will be found sufficiently interested to furnish, free of charge, a hall appropriate and convenient for the meetings. Several such offers have been already made. We trust we shall be privileged if we improve the present opportunity to give our answer, to the above questions with reasons therefor. 1. We will attend the convention at any time or place, favored by a majority, held in San Francisco, Chicago, Portland, or elsewhere. While many reasons may be urged in favor of other places, it is our honest conviction, that New York will be found in many important respects the most favorable point for holding the first meeting. It is most central for the Eastern and Middle states. Many, even most, teachers from the West and South desire to avoid the trip to the West, and the expense or pleasure during their vacation, such can take in the convention without increasing expense or loss of time. Prof. Packard offers the use of his large and splendid hall free. None more eligible or commodious can be found in the country. Prof. Wright names May 15, Monday, as the time for the meeting, which seems to be more favorable than June or any earlier period, as named by others. We would also name Packard's Hall, in the place and Aug. 5, as the time, most favorable for holding the first Penmen's convention, and Prof. S. S. Packard and C. E. Cady, of New York, H. C. Wright, of C. Claghorn of Brooklyn, as a committee of arrangements. We are led to name these gentlemen not only for their great and decided ability, but for their adjacent location, and hence convenience, for prompt and efficient action. Under their direction a convention at New York could not fail of being a grand success. Those in favor say I, those to contrary, well—let somebody else put that.

of the convention.

Yours truly,
S. S. PACKARD.

BRYANT AND STATION STREET,
BOSTON, MARCH 20, 1878.

D. T. Ames, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—I notice in the last two numbers of the *JOURNAL* various propositions for a convention of teachers of penmanship and book-keeping. Why should not such a convention be had during the coming summer? I am sure there is need enough of it, and I, for one, would like to see together the working men in our profession. There must be among them some very good looking chaps, as I am sure there are many deserving workers.

Suppose you and Packard, who represent the great metropolis, call a meeting in New York during July or August. I think you would get plenty of responses.

Yours,
H. E. HERRARD.

WRIGHT'S COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,
BOSTON, [E.D.], March 25, 1878.

D. T. Ames, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—I am in favor of the proposed convention of business college teachers and penmen. Let us converse by all means; I am anxious to see what kind of a message we would make. I propose New York City the place, and Monday, August 5 the time. I name New York because I think the greater number would like to visit the Metropolis to make purchases, to visit its seaside resorts, and to have a good time in general. Besides it would not cost me much to attend. I also propose, sir, to make the thing a certainty, that you issue a sufficient number of circulars of invitation inviting those interested to meet in convention in your city, Monday August 5, that the expense of advertising, &c. be borne by the convention pro rata—that all those in favor



PUBLISHED MONTHLY at \$1.00 per Year.
D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor,
500 Broadway, New York.

Single copies of JOURNAL sent on receipt of ten cents. Specimen copies furnished to Agents free.

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1 month 3 mos. 6 mos. 1 year.
1 Column... \$10.00 \$25.00 \$40.00 \$75.00
1/2 "..... 5.00 12.50 20.00 35.00
1 inch (12 lines)... 1.00 3.25 5.00 10.00
3 inch (36 lines)... 3.00 9.75 15.00 30.00

Advertisements for one and three months, payable in advance; for six months and one year, payable quarterly in advance. No deviation from the above rates. Leading matter, 20 cents per line.

LIBERAL INDUCEMENTS.

We hope to make the JOURNAL, as interesting and attractive to the penman or teacher who sees it, as without either his subscription or a good word; but we want them to do more than that, we desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, we therefore offer the following:

PENMAN'S.

To every subscriber, mail further notice, we will send a copy of the John D. Williams' masterpiece, 124th issue, in size.

To any person sending their own and another name as subscribers, including \$2, we will mail the JOURNAL one year, and forward by return of mail to the order, a copy of either of the following publications, each of which are among the finest specimens of penmanship ever published, viz.:

The Complete Penman of Progress. 1893. In 4 vols. The Penman's Progress. 1893. 2 vols. The Penman's Progress. 1893. 2 vols. The Penman's Progress. 1893. 2 vols. The Penman's Progress. 1893. 2 vols.

For three names and \$5, we will forward the large Complete Penman, 124th issue, for \$2.

For six names and \$10, we will forward a copy of Williams' Penman's Guide, retail for \$2.50.

For twelve subscribers and \$12, we will send a copy of Ames' Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship, price \$5. The same bound in gilt will be sent for eleven subscribers and \$15, price \$7.50.

For twelve names and \$12, we will forward a copy of Williams' Penman's Guide, retail for \$2.50.

All communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, should preferably be addressed to the office of publication, 500 Broadway, New York.

The JOURNAL will hereafter be issued promptly on the first of each month. Matter designed for insertion should be received on or before the twentieth.

Advertisements should be paid for by order (either by registered letter, money enclosed in letter is not sent at our risk. Address

PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL.

500 Broadway, New York.

Give your name and address very distinctly.

NEW YORK, APRIL, 1878.

What is the Verdict?

With the present number the JOURNAL enters upon the second year of its existence. Its record for a year is made and is before its friends and patrons. They are the jury and now have the case. Their verdict will be rendered in the giving or withholding of their patronage, in the renewal of their own and inducing other subscriptions. What shall it be, for or against? Through the oracles of Uncle Sammel's mad lips we already perceive many propitious omens, renewals, elms (omissions, at least, of lively times), and compliments come pouring in from all quarters. Although the subscription list has surpassed in numbers our expectations, and far exceeded beyond that ever attained by any other penman's paper, yet there are many, even thousands, who ought and would, with slight personal influence, become subscribers. Will not our friends please bear this in mind and not accordingly. If patrons have found the JOURNAL worth the price of its subscription during the past year, we can, with confidence, assure them to come. We believe that there is no live teacher or student of writing who, having received and read each number of the JOURNAL, does not feel, not one, but many dollars richer in soul, if not cash, than he otherwise would. It has helped to bring the profession into greater harmony of thought and action,

doing much to remove jealousy and conceit, and to create a more mutual and brotherly feeling.

Character in Hand Writing.

Several articles having appeared in the JOURNAL touching this subject, we thought proper to present our views on that direction. Upon this, as upon most other subjects, there is a great diversity of opinion. We have known persons who professed to be able to delineate the entire physical and mental characteristics of persons by examining their hand writing, even to telling their stature, complexion, temperament, color of eyes and hair, whether spare or corpulent, &c., &c., being equally discriminating regarding peculiar mental traits of character. This we regard as an absurd and ridiculous error.

Others confine their claims to judging of the mental characteristics of the writer, but even this appears to us to be precarious and doubtful, and certainly is this the case of the large mass of persons, such as school-children, and persons who have not by any extended practice, acquired an habitual and distinctive hand writing. From the writing of such persons nothing can be told regarding their character. Indeed, there is no character in it. If not so they would be liable to most sudden and radical transformations of character. We have often observed instances where the writing of all of a numerous class of pupils, under the tuition of a skilful instructor, has changed from week to week, and almost from day to day, so radically as to be scarcely recognized, even by an expert, as being that of the same persons. Again, let any lady or gentleman, who has been in a position requiring very little or no practice in writing, he suddenly placed in one requiring rapid and constant practice, how soon there will be a very marked change in the entire appearance and character of their writing. And the change will be modified not alone by the rapidity and extent of practice, but by the peculiar requirements for neatness and style of their respective positions. The policy clerk in an insurance office or accountant whose pay and standing are rated quite as much by the style as speed in execution, will, ultimately, write quite a different and more accomplished hand than will the lawyer's clerk, whose standing and compensation are quite independent of his style of writing.

In the writing of adults, who have hands established by long practice, we find habitual and marked peculiarities, which may, and undoubtedly do, indicate, more or less, the character of the writer, and then, we would it it does, to so great an extent, as is often claimed, for even such persons write differently under different modes and circumstances, often indicating more a temporary condition of mind and exercise, than any permanent trait of character.

Gaskell's Complete Compendium.

NEW SERIES.

We are indebted to the author for a copy of this interesting and valuable work. It consists of fifteen copy slips, a large ornamental sheet, and a hand-book for instruction. The slips are systematically arranged, skilfully written, and well adapted to the learner in acquiring a good hand-writing either with or without the aid of a teacher. Published by G. A. Gaskell, Manchester, N. H.

Fine Works of Art.

We have received from George Stinson & Co., Portland, Me., a series of splendid engravings and chromos, entitled "Life's Morning," "Empty Sleeve," "Cala Lilly" and "Fibral Cross." The designs are striking, the engraving and printing superb, and constitute pictures which will be highly prized by all lovers of fine pictures.

Penman's Convention.

We invite the special attention of persons interested in this matter to the numerous letters, together with the editorial comments, and suggestions upon another page, and solicit an early response to the same.

An Autograph Column.

We desire to publish the autographs of as many prominent professional penmen as we can procure—and in order to lighten the expense of doing so, we propose to those who have good cuts to forward, by mail, duplicates to be used for that purpose. For those who have no cuts to sell, on receipt of autograph, have the same engraved in the best manner possible and insert the same in the JOURNAL, and forward to them a duplicate on their paying the sum of \$1.50. The cuts furnished, to be accepted, must not exceed 2 1/2 inches in length, or the width of one column in space in the JOURNAL.

Our Rates for Advertising.

It will be observed by reference to our terms for advertising that the rates have been advanced from ten to fifteen cents per line of eight words for a single insertion, and proportionately for a longer period. Considering the present large circulation of the JOURNAL, the advanced rates are very low. No advertisement will be inserted for less than forty days, payable in advance.

Penmen's Supplies.

We invite attention to our list of supplies, published in another column. We are prepared to furnish promptly, and at reasonable cost, all articles needed by penmen. By ordering from us they will be sure of receiving articles of good quality, and especially India ink, of which much that is sold is utterly worthless.

Read our Premium List.

The premiums which we offer are alone worth all the money we ask from a subscriber for the JOURNAL, while, to every person interested in, or who is an admirer of fine penmanship, the JOURNAL will repay many times the price of its subscription.

Penmen, and Others.

Throughout the country, are requested to forward for insertion in the JOURNAL, items and thoughts of interest and value to its readers, and the profession.

Disappointment.

We are disappointed, as undoubtedly our readers will be, in not being able to have the promised specimen letter from Professor Henry C. Spencer ready for the present number. Hope to give it in the next issue.

Specimen Copies.

We have printed a large number of extra copies of the present number of the JOURNAL, to be used as specimen copies. To persons who are endeavoring to secure clubs, or have acquaintances who would probably be interested, we will mail extra copies on application.

The Journal as a Premium.

We will mail the JOURNAL free for one year to any person sending us the names of three subscribers and \$3, and also send the Williams' specimen as a special premium to all.

Just as we go to press we receive a long and interesting communication relating to the convention from J. C. McLean, Worthington, Ohio. He earnestly commends the convention, and makes liberal offer to furnish free, gratuitous room for the use of his own building for the opening of a law school, in Columbus, Ohio. We regret to say that want of both time and space forbids giving his communication in full.

Answers to



A. F. K. Burwick, Ill. Mr. Wessels' name came off according to announcement, on February 25.

A. C. T. Quinn, Minn. V. A. Your writing is graceful and easy; it lacks most in uniformity. To question No. 2 we answer no.

H. A. B. C. Augusta, Me. You will find our views regarding character in handwriting in our article under that head in another column.

E. A. G. Galvia, Ill. "The Writing Teacher" is no longer published. It was for many years conducted by Prof. H. W. Ellsworth, of New York.

A. D. B. Berlin, O. You have the basis for a good handwriting; letters are well formed, proportionate and well spaced. The primary fault is in its size. Write at least one-third smaller.

N. L. R. Aberdeen, Ind. You write very well. Attention to the proper proportions of letters, and greater care in following the hand upon which you write, would greatly improve your writing.

F. M. J. Lenox, Iowa. Your writing is very creditable for one having no great advantages and practice. Your principal fault is the great disproportion between the capitals and small letters.

R. O. H. Philadelphia, Oregon. Your writing in all respects is good, but it lacks symmetry and uniformity in spacing and height of letters. Lessons in flourishing will give facility and grace of movement, and in that respect is an aid to this writing. We would advise you to practice for a while, carefully, after the copies of some standard text before teaching.



CAUTION. We have unquestionable proof that some persons have procured specimens of cards, and other writing from other penmen, and have been forwarded for notice in the JOURNAL as their own. This is not only a gross deception upon the JOURNAL, but also a reflection upon its readers. We hereby give notice that hereafter on the receipt of satisfactory evidence of such fraud, we will fully expose the same through the columns of the JOURNAL.

C. A. Smith, Burg Hill, Ohio, incloses an elegant specimen of plain writing.

W. C. Fisher, North Lyndhurst, incloses some very creditable card specimens.

W. A. Chess, Brownsville, Mich., incloses several specimens of cards written in an old-hand, easy style.

F. L. Burnett, Elmira, N. Y., sends two very handsomely flourished birds, also a card design represented on the 7th page.

M. M. Desmond, Downport, Iowa, incloses several attractive specimens of cards flourished with colored inks.

J. McBride, Chillicothe, O., writes an elegant letter in which he sends several specimens of superb work.

Stephen Howland, Cleveland, O., incloses several slips of writing, which, for facility and grace in movement, we have rarely seen equaled.

W. L. Dean, Wyoming, Connecticut, Kingston, Pa., has forwarded several designs for flourishing, which are quite elegant in design, and masterly in execution.

N. V. Hamilton, Foughkeepsie, N. Y., sends one of the letters which he sends several specimens of superb work, which we have received, in which he incloses several card specimens which are models of taste and excellence.

W. B. Dink, Tully, N. Y., sends a well-written letter, in which he incloses a very creditable specimen of flourishing and drawing. They are indeed excellent, considering that he is but seventeen years of age, and has not the aid of a professional teacher.

Mrs. C. A. Allis Cook, Proprietor of Allis' Commercial College, Hartford, Ill., forwards a package containing nine photographs, in which she has made a high degree of artistic skill in the design of the penmanship, and fully attained the enviable reputation of being a superior calligrapher. Mrs. Cook graduated from F. R. Spencer, Sr., in 1865.

F. A. Smith, penman, at the Business University, Rochester, N. Y., incloses in a well-written letter some superior specimens of plain and flourished cards.

T. R. Williams, Penman at the Iowa City Commercial College sends a letter written in elegant style. In grace, symmetry, and the correctness in forms of the letters, it is rarely excelled. He also incloses a very skillfully executed piece of flourishing.

F. W. H. Wiesbaden, 1214 Chaudron street, St. Louis, Mo., forwards a photographic medley of eight specimens of his penmanship. The scenes represented are: "Trial of Queen Catherine," "Peter the Great saved by his mother," "Cromwell refusing the Crown of England," "Cleopatra before Julius Caesar," "John of Arc in Prison," "Last moments of Mary Queen of Scots," "Plot to poison Emperor Frederick II. frustrated by his daughter," "Hudson receiving his commission from the Dutch East India Co." No one who has not seen Mr. Wiesbaden's pen drawing can begin to imagine the unvaried skill he has displayed in the execution of these works. They appear faultless in spirit, accuracy of delineation, and delicacy of execution. Their equal has seldom been seen in this country. Mr. W. gives additional evidence of his soundness by saying, put me down for the "Convention."

Personals.

B. E. Kerr is teaching cursive at Amador City, Cal.

J. D. Holcomb, Mail Clerk, O., is one of our fine penmen. His letters are models in easy, graceful, and rapid business writing.

The *Daily Register*, of Rockford, Ill., gives a well-merited and complimentary notice of penmanship executed by H. C. Clark, who has recently become a partner in Mrs. Allis Cook's Commercial College at that place.

T. J. Mager, an accomplished penman and teacher, and one of the proprietors of the Toledo (O.) Business College, has recently entered into a life partnership with Miss Maggie Turner of Wheeling, W. Va. *Long live the firm; any it grow in prosperity.*

Honore Russell, a young and promising attorney, and for many years Assistant District Attorney for New York, was married on February 25 to Miss Josephine Hilton, daughter of Judge Hilton, the brother-in-law and administrator of the colossal estate of A. T. Stewart & Co. The wedding took place at the splendid residence of Judge Hilton, No. 7 West Thirty-fourth street. A splendid reception was given to the young couple. Mrs. A. T. Stewart presented a very fine set of silverware. Among the guests were Samuel J. Eldon, Gov. of Massachusetts, and numerous others. Mr. Russell is a brother of Prof. Russell, so well known to the readers of the *Journal*.

Prof. H. P. Smith enters the employment of Messrs. Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co., as General Agent for White's Art Studios, which were entered in our last number. Prof. Smith was formerly connected with the firm of Potter, Answorth & Co., as Agent for Bartholomew's Drawing and P. D. and S. Copy-books. More recently he has been employed in the public schools of this city as teacher of drawing, and is the President of the Drawing Teachers' Association. We congratulate Messrs. Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co. in securing a gentleman of so much experience and larger acquaintance to represent their series of Drawing Books, and Professor Smith in connecting himself with so energetic, liberal, and laudable a firm as that of Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co. is known to be.

Where is Junius A. Coniglio? We are receiving many inquiries which we are unable to answer. He, or any one else who knows will confer a favor by furnishing the desired information.

Teachers of Penmanship.

You should learn to teach drawing. Your chances for obtaining lucrative situations will be doubled thereby. Teachers of Penmanship make the best teachers of Drawing; they learn to draw rapidly. See advertisement, *Industrial Art Education*, and send for circular.

Every penman and admirer of fine penmanship wants the *JOURNAL*. If you know of any such who does not take it, tell them about it or send us their names and address, that we may mail them specimen copies.

The illustration upon this page was flourished by Jackson Cagle, penman at Moore's Business College, Atlanta, Ga.

Paragraphs.

BY PRYSTOCK.

Perfumed ink is now used for sentimental notes.

Sonloaque, formerly Emperor of Hayti, could not write his own name.

The reason why figures can't lie is, that they are either running and mounting up, or are in a standing account.

It is said that just before Alphonso took to himself a queen, one of his courtiers went to make Alpha-bet that he was A-B-C-olour of her hour.

Miss Mary Anning discovered, in the sea limestone of Lyme Regis, a pen and ink which must have been embedded in the solid rock, ages before the advent of man upon the earth, and yet they were both in an excellent state of preservation and were proven to be the property of Loligo—a distant relative of the present Cuttle-fish.

A skillful penman of the 16th century presented to Queen Elizabeth a bit of paper of the size of a finger nail, on which he had written the Ten Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer, together with the name and the date of presentation.

The brave Abbe, confined in the Castle d'If, an ancient fortress on an island in the harbor of Marseilles, wrote a book, with his own blood for ink, a pen made

is reached when at the finish the pen catches in the paper and spatters the fair page.

Two young Frenchmen, twin brothers, in 1870, made the discovery of a rich violet ink, but were prevented bringing it into market from lack of funds. Many days they struggled with poverty, and one dark, bleak Saturday night, penniless and friendless they were compelled to divulge the secret of its manufacture, as an offer of five francs was made them. This enabled them to start for the goal of prosperity, and in little more than two years they retired from business worth upwards of half a million dollars.

The style of invitation cards is one of extreme simplicity. Monograms are discarded; only plain script is fashionable. And this is true of visiting cards.

In England the better the position of the people the more simple their cards. No coronet or crest ever appears on the cards of the nobility, gentlemen or ladies. A gentleman, entitled to the prefix of Right Honourable, or Honourable, never has it on his card. A glazed card is only fit for a card without the r.

In this country the population of a town can be determined by the style of cards in demand. In the large cities the plainest kind of plain writing upon a plain white card is required. In towns of 1,000

business man requires is legibility and rapidity, and to these it is not undesirable to add beauty when it detracts nothing from the other two.

The simplest forms, too,—those that are made most easily,—are the best and the handsomest. The tendency among the best writers now-a-days is to make all the forms as simple as possible, and waste no time on flourishes, or graces, in a business hand writing.

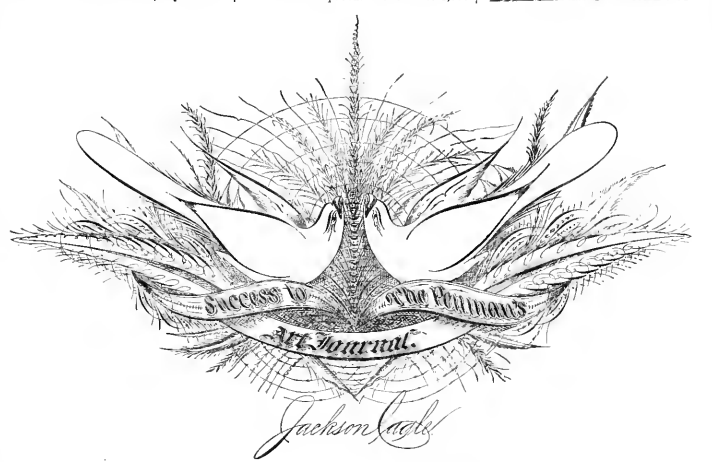
I am glad to see in the copy-books evidence of a decided change in that respect, the letters being much more simple than formerly, and there is more system in their arrangement. The next few years will probably work still greater changes in the style of to-day.

D. A. O.

Practical Lessons in Writing.

LESSON NO. 5.

In the present lesson we complete the analysis of all the letters in the alphabet. In lesson No. 6 we shall consider some of the other essentials to good writing, such as spacing, slope, height, connections, movements, positions, &c., &c. In subsequent lessons we shall present some practical built with examples for practice in flourishing and ornamental and artistic writing.



of a piece of iron hoop, and by the light of a lamp made out of shreds of cloth soaked in grease obtained from his food.

In a New Jersey Court, evidence of inebriety was adduced from the handwriting of the defendant in the case, on the ground that all men are either drunk or sober, and that the said defendant when sober, could never have written his name plain enough to be deciphered by any cryptographic rule whatever.

\$1,000 reward to the penman who never heard the remark, "Your writing is beautiful, very beautiful, but, the best I ever saw was a piece done by Zerahabab Gimpington"—and this to you, who had seen his scribble and knew him to be a pretentious idiot!

The latest French toy is a miniature penman the face of which is of a material permitting the greatest mobility of its features. The machinery, although quite simple, produces, when wound up, a movement of the hand on paper previously adjusted, like that of a tyro in penmanship; and the face expresses the varied emotions of agony, of joy and self-adoration, so appropriate to the occasion. But the climax of ludicrousness of expression

or 2,000 inhabitants cards faintly tinted, and ornamental capitals, or flourished designs, written or printed in black ink; and in townships where there are from three downward to the square mile, profuse ornamentation in fancy colors with gold and silver, written or printed upon strongly tinted cards.

Business Writing.

Our friend Hiram writes in the last issue of the *JOURNAL*, "Who will study the wants of the community, and supply a style that, when formed in school, will not break up and desert one when rapid business writing is required?"

I believe that some few of our teachers are doing this very thing, and doing it well. I also think that with many of us our "exact" writing as shown in our copy-books, &c., interferes greatly with the student's progress, so far at least as rapidity goes. When we become "independent" enough, as he expresses it, to give our pupils for copies such writing as has been done easily and rapidly, even if the work be faulty in form, it will not be long before the pupil will acquire the necessary movements to produce writing of that kind. Let it be understood that what the

Fifth Principle, or Capital O.
Height, 3 spaces. Width, 2 spaces. Distance between two left curves, 1 space. Terminating point, 1 space above base. Curves upon the right and left equal. Count 1, 2, 1.

E combines Prins, 3, 2, 3, 5.
Full height, 3 spaces. Height of base, 2 spaces; width of same, 1 1/2 spaces. Length and width of top, 1 1/2 the length and width of base. Between left curves in base oval 1 space. Small loop at right angles to main slant. Count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1.

D combines Prins, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3. Full height, 3 spaces. Point of beginning, 2 1/2 spaces, and of termination, 1 space above base. Between left curves at half-height, 1 space. Height of small loop, 1 space. Count 1, 2, 3, 1.

C combines Prins, 3, 2, 3, 2. Full height, 3 spaces. Height of beginning point, 2 1/2 spaces. Width of large loop and spaces to its right and left, each 1 space. Lower end of loop, 1 space above base. Count 1, 2, 3, 1.

Marking Alphabet.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
 a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

A combines Prins. 6, 3, 2. Full height, 3 spaces. Width of reversed oval, 1 1/4 spaces. Distance between parts at top, 1 1/4 spaces; at base, 1 1/4 spaces. Point of contact of main parts, 1 1/4 spaces above base. Count 1, 2, 3, 1.

W combines Prins. 6, 2, 3, 3. Full height, 3 spaces. Height of final curve about 2 spaces. Reversed oval as in X. Distance between main parts at base, each 1 1/4 spaces. Count 1, 2, 3, 4, 1.

Q combines Prins. 6, 3, 2. Full height, 3 spaces. Height of final curve, 1 space. Main width, 1 1/4 spaces. Length of small loop, 1 space; width of same, 1 space. From beginning point of letter to left end of small loop, 1 space. Count 1, 2, 1.

Z combines Prins. 6, 3, 2, 4. Extends 3 spaces above and 2 spaces below base line. Reversed oval as in X and V. Smaller loop crossing in space above base. Crossing of larger loop is upon base-line and 1 space to right of smaller loop. Width of loop below the base line, 1 space, full. Count 1, 2, 3, 4, 1.

E combines Prins. 6, 2, 3. Full height, 3 spaces. Width of reversed oval, 1 1/4 spaces. Reversed oval as in X to completion of upper third of right side; then descends a straight line, touching base 1/4 space to right of beginning of letter, and uniting in short turn with final curve, which ends 2 spaces above base. Count 1, 2, 1.

U combines Prins. 6, 2, 1, 2. Full height, 3 spaces. Height of right half, 2 spaces, and of final curve, 1 space. Reversed oval as in V. Distance between main parts, 1 space. Count 1, 2, 3, 4, 1.

F combines Prins. 6, 2, 1, 4. Extends 3 spaces above and 2 below base line. Formed like U to second turn of letter at base. Thence it flushes with the inverted loop. Width of inverted loop 1 space, full. Count 1, 2, 3, 4, 1.

CINCINNATI, March 25, 1878.
 Editor: Penman's Art Journal.

DEAR SIR:—During the past thirty years I collected hundreds of works on penmanship, from France, Italy, Spain, Holland, Germany and England. Many of these were large folios.

During the last few years my interest in such works has considerably abated, having nearly exhausted the subject. However, when a new work appears it is quite natural that I should have a desire to get it, or at least the curiosity to see it. So it was with Ames' compendium.

On looking through the book my interest in the subject was again revived, and I was, more especially interested in the work since it was from the pen artist, and none of its merits could be attributed to the litho-

grapher or engraver. The amateur penman can see what, by diligence and perseverance, may be acquired.

Heinrich's "Musterblätter der hocheren Kalligraphie" was the only book of ornamental penmanship, that gave me a notion as to what constitutes beautiful, elaborate designs; but it is too expensive and unobtainable. Such a work as Ames' compendium is just what I would have been glad to get twenty-five years ago. It should be in the hands of every penman.

Very respectfully yours,

M. HENOLD.

EVERGREEN CITY COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, BLOOMINGTON, ILL.
 March 25, 1878.

Prof. D. T. Ames:

DEAR SIR:—I have had charge of the Penmanship Department of this College since last fall; we have a first-class school, and are meeting with grand success.

Enclosed please find money order for twelve dollars, and the list of subscribers (twelve) for your ART JOURNAL, for which please send me your Premium, "Ames' Compendium of Plain and Ornamental Penmanship."

I am a warm friend of your JOURNAL; hope I may largely increase its circulation. Yours respectfully,

E. A. CUBBER.

BUSINESS UNIVERSITY, ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 March 25, 1878.

Prof. Ames:

Enclosed please find P. O. order for \$24 and the names and addresses of twenty-four subscribers. Please send the "Compendium" and "Guide" as premiums.

I will send more names in a few days. "Compendium," \$7.50; "Guide," \$2.50.

Hastily yours,

K. R. SMITH.

HELD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., MARCH, 25, 1878
 Prof. D. T. Ames:

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find \$10, for which please send the JOURNAL as per list of names enclosed.

Yours friend,

A. B. CAPPE.

[The above are only a few specimens of the clond of "Misses" being handed at the JOURNAL. Such treatment! But—well we are becoming accustomed to it.]

Business College Items.

Prof. J. B. Canfield, President of Soule's Commercial College, New Orleans, La., writes that over two hundred students are in regular attendance at that institution.

The former pupils of the Bryant & Stratton Commercial School of Boston, announce a "grand reunion and reception" for the afternoon and evening of March 28. We are glad to learn that this school is highly prosperous.

H. C. Clark of Allen's Business College, Rockford, Ill., writes an able and lengthily

communication heartily commending the holding of a penman's convention. We regret that want of space prevents our giving this and many other communications in full. "He says there are hundreds of teachers who differ greatly in their opinions on teaching book-keeping and penmanship, and by having a convention, every one would derive great benefit from it, and it would tell to the world that we were not asleep, but wide awake in discussing the best and most advisable way to impart the branches of education which we represent. I believe that there is not a penman or a business college teacher in the land who would not be favorable to such a gathering and consequently, I say this, have a National P. & B. C. Convention in June next.

Ancient Cities.

Nineveh was fifteen miles long, eight wide, and forty miles round, with a wall one hundred feet high, and thick enough for three chariots abreast. Babylon was fifty miles within the walls, which were seventy feet thick, and four hundred feet high, with one hundred towers. The Temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was four hundred and twenty feet to the support of the roof. It was a hundred years in building. The largest of the Pyramids is four hundred and sixty-one feet high, and six hundred and fifty-three on the sides. It was over eleven miles long, and the stones are about thirty feet in length, and the pyramids are three hundred and eighty. It employed three hundred and thirty thousand men in building. The Labyrinth, in Egypt, contains three hundred chambers and two hundred and fifty halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins twenty-seven miles round. Abenes was twenty-five miles round, and contained three hundred and fifty thousand citizens and four hundred thousand slaves. The Temple of Baalpeph was so rich in donations that it was plundered of five hundred thousand dollars, and Nineveh carried away from it two hundred statues. The walls of Rome were thirteen miles round.

Presentation.

The following from the Elizabeth, (N. J.) Daily Herald explains itself. Such things are not to be taken in their way. "The winter term of Dr. Lansley's Business College closed yesterday, and after the last class had recited, a very pleasant affair occurred. Mr. Harry L. Grant, nephew of Ex-President Grant, arose, and addressing the principal in a few well chosen remarks, and he had been selected by the students to present a slight testimonial of their respect for their preceptor, and, as a birthday memento he hoped it would be treasured in remembrance of the young ladies and young gentlemen of the College; he then stepped forward and handed Dr. Lansley an elegant silver fruit basket, upon which was inscribed.

Presented to
 Prof. Jas. H. Lansley,
 By the Pupils of E. B. C.,
 Jan. 30, 1878.

The recipient feigningly thanked the donors, and in the course of his remarks stated that it was the first time during his life that he had ever been called upon to receive such a present, but in this case he was entirely ignorant that anything of the kind was thought of. The D. C. commended the students, particularly the young ladies, on their ability to keep their own counsel and declared he never would again listen to the theory that ladies could not keep a secret. The gift was highly prized, not alone for its intrinsic value, but that it was the love existing between the college and its management.

Autographs.

In this column we shall insert, in each issue, a limited number of the autographs of prominent penmen and authors. When cuts are furnished, they will be inserted free. If engraved by us, a charge of \$1.50 will be made, which will include a duplicate cut to be sent by mail to the person represented. Cuts must not exceed 2 1/2 inches (or the width of one column) in length. Autographs furnished for us to engrave should be either the exact size desired, viz.: 2 1/2 inches long, or just twice the length, viz.: 4 1/2 inches in length.

J. B. Packard

Pres't of B. S. & Packard's Business College, 805 Broadway, New York, and author of several popular and standard works upon book-keeping and writing.

J. B. Canfield

is an accomplished penman and President of Soule's Commercial College, New Orleans, La.

Wm. D. T. Ames

Editor New England Star Ansonia, Conn., and is also a skillful penman.

E. A. Cubber

is a skillful and popular teacher of writing at Elmira, N. Y.

J. M. Bude

is one of our most skillful and accomplished teachers of writing. He is now teaching at Chillicothe, O.

J. C. Clark

Writes well and is now teaching classes at Ansonia City, Cal.

The alphabet given on this page is used for marking purposes and is adapted for being made either with a broad-nibbed pen or brush.

We have received an extensive variety of superior gilt-edged and tinted blank cards from the New England Card Company, Woonsocket, R. I. Their rates seem low. Read their advertisement and send for a circular.

The Labor of Writing.

A rapid long-hand penman can write thirty words in a minute. To do this he must draw his quill through the space of one rod—sixteen and one-half feet. In forty minutes his pen travels a furlong, and in five and one-third hours one mile. We make, on an average, sixteen curves or turns of the pen in writing each word. Writing thirty words a minute, we must make four hundred and eighty-eight to each second, in an hour, twenty-eight thousand eight hundred; in a day of only five hours, one hundred and forty-four thousand; in a year of three hundred days, forty-three million two hundred thousand. The man who made one million strokes each day, a month is not at all remarkable. Many men make four millions. Here we have in the aggregate a mark three hundred million; to be traced on paper by the pen in a year. In making each letter of the ordinary alphabet, we must take from three to seven turns of the pen, in an average three and half to four. In the alphabet, an expert can write one hundred and seventy to two hundred words in a minute! Apply your amplification to this, and see where your long-hand writer stands.]

THE PENMAN'S JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICAL AND THE ORNAMENTAL IN PENMANSHIP.

Published Monthly, at 205 Broadway, for \$1.00 per Year.

H. F. AILES, Editor and Proprietor,
B. F. BELLEVILLE, Associate Editor.

NEW YORK, MAY, 1878.

VOL. II. NO. 2.

Cards of Penmen and Business Colleges, occupying three lines of space, will be inserted in this column for \$1.50 per year.

G. H. SHATTUCK,
General Agent, Spencerian Copy Books,
LYONS, BLAKEMAN & TAYLOR, New York.

PACKARD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
805 BROADWAY,
New York.

GEORGE STIMPSON, Jr.,
EXPERT AND FENMAN,
205 Broadway, New York.

WRIGHT'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
Broadway and Fourth Street,
BROOKLYN, E. D.

D. T. AMES,
ARTIST-FENMAN AND PUBLISHER,
305 Broadway, New York.

POTTER, AINSWORTH & CO.,
PUBLISHERS OF F. & S. STANDARD COPY-BOOKS,
53 John Street, New York.

D. APPLETON & CO.,
Publishers,
349 and 351 Broadway, New York.

Eminent Penmen of Olden Times.

BY G. H. SHATTUCK,
THIRD ARTICLE.

In the March number of the JOURNAL, I gave some account of one of the works of Edward Cocker (inadvertently printed Peter Cocker), his quaint instructions, and other matters mostly compiled from that book. Further investigations developed, I thought, sufficient material for another article in regard to this remarkable man. I trust I shall have the indulgence of your readers in giving some farther details of the LIFE AND WRITINGS OF EDWARD COCKER.

This ingenious and very industrious gentleman was not only celebrated for his skill as a penman and engraver, but also for his mathematical knowledge; besides, he was something of a poet. Whether his ability as a penman and engraver, or his knowledge of figures gave him the greater celebrity I am not able to determine.

His book called "England's Penman; or, Cocker's New Copy Book," containing all the curious blades practised in England and surrounding nations, never the like published, as the impartial and judicious may determine," is said to have given rise to the old saying current in England, "According to Cocker."

Lowe's Bibliographer's Manual says Cocker is deservedly reckoned among the improvers of writing and arithmetic. Copies of sixty editions of his arithmetic were published; the fourth in 1682; the fifty-second in 1748, showing it must have been a work of great merit, otherwise it could not for so long a period have held its place in public esteem. A copy of the first edition sold in 1844, for eight pounds, five shillings (about \$40).

He does not seem to have derived his inspiration from the zeal or enthusiasm of any special instructor, judging from the following from his book, entitled

FAIR WRITING'S STORE HOUSE.

"Wherein fair writing is the life expressed, the study requires critical with Art's rich vein, by which with practice thus may gain perfection."

Massé says of him, "He was certainly a great encourager of various kinds of writing; an infatigable performer both

with the pen and brain, an ingenious artist in figures, and no contemptible proficient in the poetry he attempted to write."

His writing, I allow, is far inferior to what we have from the hands of some of our late masters; and there is not that freedom and liveliness in his pencilled knots and flourishes that there is in pieces done by a bold command of hand. But let us consider the time in which he lived, and what little improvement then had been made in the modern way of penmanship, and we may justly make allowance for the many defects that now appear in his books, and say with the poet,"

"Let the impartial judge, in every case,
Weigh well the circumstance, time and place,
All these consider'd the account may
With justice be discharged on such a plea."

Knight says, in his life of William Caxton, the first English printer, "The well-thruster classes desired a species of embellishment more costly than wood-cut, though in many cases not superior; copper-plate prints began to be introduced into printed works. Impressions of these prints were obtained by a process totally different from the typographical art, so that they constituted in every respect an additional expense in the production of a book. Sir John Harrington's translation of 'Orlando Furioso,' was the first work in which copper plates were used. This was printed in 1690."

This statement may be true so far as relates to the ordinary printed book with illustrations scattered through it, but Cocker more than thirty years prior to

Excellent artist, thy immortal fame
Eretracted from on high, thy curious hand
W hat makes thee jostle like the Nile thou over
A rt thou still multiplying like the sea
R are Phenix that the bright transcendent
D o not cut from these arts, their bottom even
C onsider what rare people pen design
O who can but admire thy skill, that
C ommerce abroad, at home, pen cannot
I nventor, who for pen perfection loo
E nected are those columns to thy praise
R epute attends thy arts, thy virtues favour

that date had published his works on writing, in which the first and last pages were letter-press, with the copper plates they described inserted in the middle of the book. This being true, it is not improbable that to Cocker belongs the further credit of coining the words of the printing with that of the ruling press.

Under various titles he published about twenty different works, mostly on the subject of penmanship; none he engraved on copper, others on brass, and one, "The Pen's Perfection," was engraved on silver plates.

Whether on account of any real or fancied superiority in the metal for engraving, or to raise public curiosity, and thus increase its sale, does not appear.

Cocker was blamed by his contemporaries for writing, engraving, and printing too much, thereby degrading the art, and bringing it into contempt; but it is more than probable that for the hundred of copies he produced from the rolling press of his time, thousands, if not millions, are printed on the lithographic presses of today.

His first work from the rolling press was published in London, in 1657, when he was 26 years old, which gives the date of his birth as 1631, and, as all his books were published in London, it is probable he was a native of the city or near vicinity.

A list of his books, with their lengthy quaint titles in full, would no doubt be very interesting to many, but space forbids anything more than their names in the most abbreviated form, which I have taken from the very valuable Catalogue of Works on Penmanship, Ancient and Modern, compiled by Prof. A. S. MASON, of Boston.

1. Youths' Directions to Write Without a Teacher. London, 1652.

2. Plume Triumphus, (on some editions, The Pen's Triumph), 1657.
(Said to be his first work from the rolling press.)

3. Pen's Transcendence; or, Fair Writing's Labyrinth, 1657.

(On the edition of 1660, Fair Writing's Store House.)

4. Art's Glory, or Penman's Treasury, 1659.

(A photo-engraving of the title-page of this book appeared in the March number of the JOURNAL.)

5. Penna Volens, or Young Men's Accomplishment, 1661.

6. England's Penman, or Cocker's New Copy Book, 1668.

7. Magnum in Parvo, or the Pen's Perfection, 1672.

8. The Guide to Penmanship, 1674.

Exceeds the reach of pens, from whence it came
E xpose such merits, all around stand
W hat evidence! how glorious with them go
A nd count thou yet find out another pla
R are Phenix pen, as Sol a painted sta
D o not cut from these arts, their bottom even
C onfessing all for thy all by all be crown'd
C onfessing all for come by intelligence
O utrage those artists, who for famous
C amp, court, and city, of your host, the
K now not enough! how's within this too
A cknowledg'd by none, until thy fate deems
R ecount is thy name, with pen and grave

9. The Young Clerk's Tutor, 1674.
10. The Complete Writing Master, 1676.
11. The London Writing Master, or Scholar's Guide, 1678.

As near as can be ascertained Cocker died in 1677, and it is probable that this was a posthumous work in course of preparation at the time of his death.

A large number of his works were without the date of publication, and as several are given with dates subsequent to his death, I presume they were reprints or later editions of his books, and the date gives the date of reprint and not the date of the original publication.

12. Morals or the Muses' Spring Garden, 1694.

13. England's Perfect School Master for Spelling, Writing, and Arithmetic, 1699.

The following are without date—
14. Mulum in Parvo, or the Pen's Gallery.

15. The Young Lawyer's Writing-Master.

16. The Pen's Faculty.
17. The Country School Master.

18. Introduction to Writing.
Massé mentions having seen the title of another work by Cocker, entitled

(19.) The Pen's Experience.
Certainly, with this array before them modern authors need not lack names for their productions. At this distant day it is no easy task to discover whether these works were wholly independent of each other, or whether the change of names did not in some respects correspond to the modern terms. "Revised" "Newly Revised" "Revised Edition Improved," &c.

As Cocker's death occurred in 1677, in the 46th year of his age, it will readily be seen that with great talents he also exhibited great industry, which perhaps is only another name for genius.

A very curious quadruple acrostic is inserted on the last page of one of his books, signed H. P., which for the singular rarity of it, I transcribe on this page as a most fitting accompaniment of this article.

Written Copies.

As every successful teacher of penmanship uses copies from which his pupils practice, would it not be a subject well worth the discussion of some of our teachers, as to whether engraved or well written copies should be used?

There is an advantage which written copies have over those engraved, for instance: when the student sits down to copy of real penwork, fresh from the pen, remembering the old adage, "What man had done man can do," he will have some hopes of success. But, you place engraved copies before the student, which are so perfectly exact that he will doubt whether man could ever produce such correct forms with the pen, and in trying to imitate them he commences a task which he does not hope to accomplish, and soon gives up.

I notice in the last issue of the JOURNAL a communication on "business writing," in which the writer says: "I think that with many of us our 'exact' writing as shown in our copy-books, &c., interferes greatly with the students progress, so far at least as rapidity goes."

It is impossible for pupils to learn to use the muscular movement when their copies are engraved or written with the finger movement.

A free movement is essential in engraving a good handwriting, but it is not also essential that the copies from which your pupils practice be written in the same free movements that they are expected to use?

A. W. R.

Specimen Copies.

We have printed a large number of extra copies of the present number of the JOURNAL, to be used as specimen copies. To persons who are endeavoring to secure clubs, or have acquaintances who would probably be interested, we will mail extra copies on application.

(For the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL.)
THE TRIUMPH OF A FELLOW QUILL.

Wiesbaden's Pen.

Turn back your vision,
Gaze her hither pen,
And feel on the truth
Of our fellow's pen.

What tempest that hand,
What hurricane that eye,
In mine glow, 'twould shame eyes,
The pen can thus fly?

It wings like the eagle!
It glides like the swan!
It rolls like the storm-cloud!
It beats like the dove!

What a metabolism of curves!
What a tempest of lines!
Twisting letter and flourish,
Like tropical vines!

What wild waves fan!
What eddies prevail!
Yet grace rides in triumph
Through all the confusion.

The swift eagle arrow,
Just launched from the bow,
Is lagged in speed,
By his pen's rapid flow.

Oh! where in the wizard,
Or the brother,
That shall teach to the magic
Of our Wiesbaden's pen?

A Business Education.

BY V. VAN RIEDEL, A. M., D. D., PRINCIPAL OF DEWEEY COLLEGE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

A business education is now a necessity; if we are wealthy, it is impossible to manage our business to advantage without it. If we are dependent on ourselves for support, we can in no way find so pleasant and profitable employment as by qualifying ourselves for business. The young man who goes forth into the world at the present day with nothing more than a classical or scientific education is not prepared to scale the activity of the path that leads to fame and fortune, but he must be practically educated.

We live in an age of steam and electricity; the magnetic wire is quivering from East to West across the ocean and continents, while the tide of activity is coming onward with corresponding velocity over the vast ocean of commerce, leaving to wealth and distinction all who are good pilots, and to poverty and oblivion all who do not understand the points of the compass.

The commercial interests of our country have attained to such immense proportions, and have so thoroughly monopolized the brain and muscle of our people, that all departments of our lives are pervaded with business ideas, customs and maxims; and success depends largely and almost universally on a thorough and practical knowledge of these. It is not enough that young men, about to enter upon a business career, should be equipped only with a scientific or classical knowledge, furnished by our excellent schools and colleges; but indispensable to the attainments of the highest degree of success in business affairs, is a knowledge of the science of accounts, practical arithmetic, political economy, business penmanship, and the systematic habits, usages, customs and practices of the business world around us. For want of this business training which should have constituted a part of their education, thousands of those who go out from popular literary institutions, with minds well stored with scholastic lore, fail in everything they undertake, and become bankrupt in pocket, and too frequently in morals; while they become mere aimless flounders on the surface of society, virtually lost alike to themselves and to the world.

There is, therefore, nothing in which a young man or woman can invest time, talent and money, with a more reasonable hope of profitable returns, than in a good *practical business education*. Such an education is permanent capital, ready to be made available in all the vicissitudes of fortune, in all the business relation of life, opening to us avenues to wealth, influence and distinction; and secures us from the losses which the ignorant inevitably suffer.

When we are ready for business life, business is ready for us. Many persons say "If I get a situation, I would go and prepare myself." The great secret of success in life is for a man to be ready when the opportunity comes. Good accountants, good penmen, and expert art-

mechanics are always in demand, just as much as good teachers, good doctors, good lawyers, and skilful mechanics. "There is always room up stairs," while down below is overcrowded with inferiority. If by accident we should dedicate a limb, we should not wait till some one could study the science of surgery before we could have it properly dressed. So it is with a business man who wants a book-keeper. He does not choose to wait until some one should prepare himself, but employs one already qualified. "Knowledge is, ever was, and ever will be, power." "There is no man," says Horace Greeley, "to whom a business education is not valuable."

It is far more generally admitted now, throughout the civilized world, than at any preceding period, that technical education is necessary for every person in life. Teachers, doctors, lawyers, sailors, soldiers, engineers, clergymen, mechanics of all kinds, and agriculturists, have their technical schools for training, and from them derive innumerable advantage.

Technical education, when applied to the professions, manufactures, and the mechanical arts, develops new powers of thought and labor, and new facilities for subsistence, personal comfort and enjoyment of every kind, when placed within the reach of the humble classes; while at the same time, "appliances of art are to minister to the demands of elegant taste, and a higher moral culture."

Technical education, when applied to business and commerce, has been and ever will be, the means of greatly increasing the facilities for the more general diffusion of *practical knowledge*, to those engaged in the exchange of values, and is equally influential in harmonizing the conflicting interests of all civilized nations.

As a mental discipline, or a systematic training, or practical benefit, there is no branch of study that combines these features to a greater degree than the *science of accounts*; for while being better calculated to secure through mental discipline, or induce systematic habits of thought, it is the same that is of great practical advantage in every department of productive industry. "Yet in the face of all this, and the daily accumulation of corroborating facts there are among our old and respectable business men a few opponents of a business education. They allege that it is of little or no advantage to a business man; that they had no such education, and yet have been successful."

These fallacious objections to a business education will hold equally good against technical education in any other calling or profession. It is true that we have some men that are practical teachers, some eminent at the bar and in the pulpit, some scientific agriculturists, and skilful mechanics, as well as men in other fields of labor, who never enjoyed the advantages of a liberal education.

Shall we therefore abolish all our literary, medical and agricultural colleges, and seek for our business and professional men among the ignorant and uneducated?

If professional ignorance be a recommendation and a qualification in our business men, why not also in our professors, lawyers, clergymen, and physicians? The success and eminence attained by those who were not educated in collegiate halls, was not the result of ignorance; and if they have technical education, they would have easily attained a still higher degree of success. By enquiry the fact is revealed that many of our eminent, successful, so-called uneducated men of the world possessed a thorough education which they had acquired by close application in private study.

Again, by another class, who are designated "practically educated" business men, we are told that a *practical business education* cannot be acquired in commercial colleges; and in support of this declaration they inform us that they know persons that have attended com-

mercial schools, or the commercial department of some university institution, who have failed to become first-class accountants, or business men; hence, commercial science cannot be learned in any school. The fact that many have taken a commercial course and failed to become good business men, and first-class accountants, does not justify the illogical conclusion that all commercial schools and business colleges are worthless, or that business and commerce should be practically taught in well conducted business colleges.

The same may be said of the pupils who have attended all classes of schools.

All students of literary schools do not become first-class scholars. All students of medicine do not become skilful physicians.

All students of law do not become good lawyers. All students of theology do not become eminent clergymen; neither do all students of normal schools become first-class teachers. Yet it would be unjust and illogical to assert indiscriminately that all such schools and colleges are utterly worthless, because of the non-success of many students who have attended them.

The non-success of the students of these schools may be attributed to incompetent teachers, and the want of the requisite facilities for imparting instruction; or the course of study may have been too short, or insufficiently extended to qualify the student; or his natural capacity may have been deficient, or wholly unsuited to the course of study which he pursued. Or he may have failed to give the proper attention to explanations and to study, to insure success.

A good student is as necessary as a good teacher to insure success."

Some of all the foregoing causes, it is said to say, prevail to some extent in all schools. Singly, or variously combined, 90 per cent of all who fail to achieve satisfactory advancement and proficiency in any school, may be thus accounted for. Experience is not to be undervalued in any science or occupation in life. "It is emphatically the highest branch of learning." But fully to comprehend and utilize experience, we must have some preparatory instruction and some knowledge of the experience of those who have lived before, and contemporaneously with us.

If business colleges are worthless, they should not be allowed to exist; and if they are of practical utility they should be encouraged and truthfully represented.

An examination by competent business men must be made, in order to determine these questions.

A large percentage of the failures among our business men is attributable to a lack of thorough, systematic business training, such as is given in a well conducted business college. For a demand of this training, business colleges, like steamboats, railroads, telegraph lines, and many other new inventions and improvements are of recent origin; and for their extensive growth, they are indebted to the necessities of the present age.

The fact that business colleges are of modern origin is, in a certain sense, against them; for they have no record dating far back, to give them prestige.

Also, just how to make these institutions felt the want, felt by the public, has been a matter of experiment; and they are, therefore, of necessity, more or less imperfect.

Be it said, this, like all other enterprises in which competition is open, and money is making a leading object, men have engaged in conducting business colleges for the sole purpose of money-making, entirely, regardless of the true aim of schools of this kind. They have vied with each other for patronage to such an extent often as to become almost worthless as schools of practical instruction. Circulars containing glittering promises to prepare young men, (no matter what their previous qualifications) to enter upon a life of brilliant success, have flooded the country at times,

Some institutions have even promised to guarantee students to all their graduates; and thousands have flocked to these institutions, as motes to candles, only to get burned for their going. Fortunately have been amused by such men, before the public have been awakened to the gigantic swindle. Such institutions have been a public nuisance instead of a blessing. They have done much to create a general distrust of business colleges. They have swayed thousands of young men, and sent them out as "graduates," when they knew but little, if anything, more of what a business college should teach, on leaving, than when entering. But as frauds enter into almost every human undertaking, the legitimate work of a business college is not to be judged by the results of fraudulent institutions.

"Business colleges, under the management of fraudulent and unprincipled men, are not the only institutions of this kind that fail to do the legitimate work for which such institutions are intended."

Many fail from an inadequate idea of the want they are attempting to fill.

This failure may arise from either of two reasons: 1. A lack of this knowledge on the part of the principals of such schools; or 2. by the same lack in the authors of the text-books now in use.

"If a business college would do the greatest good for the greatest number of its students, the teacher and the text-books used, should aim to impart that kind of information that is most frequently brought into requisition by the mass of business men."

This fact has not always been sufficiently apparent to authors of text-books, and to teachers in business colleges.

Attempts have been made from time to time, with various degrees of success, to produce text-books for business colleges. None have embraced all excellencies, but some have come nearer than others to a correct method.

The true object of business colleges is to impart that kind of knowledge that will prove of positive value to every person possessing it; no matter what his calling, or life may prove to be. To this end, and to nothing short of it, should every text-book contribute, and every teacher in business colleges labor. In business colleges that are fulfilling their mission, the pupil, on leaving, knows not only how business is done in large, wholesale, commission and jobbing houses, but he is familiar with the methods of business and forms of accounts in smaller houses.

The real business school is practical, as well as theoretical.

The practice of buying and selling can never be taught in a school of any kind; nothing but experience can teach that; but the student may be made familiar with business forms of every description—the manner of making, and the use of promissory notes, checks, drafts, orders, receipts, bills, accounts, statements, &c. &c.

These, together with a good style of penmanship, a life-long knowledge of business letter-writing, commercial law, and business calculations, are of practical value, and cannot be acquired full so readily in any other way, as in a well regulated business college.

To attempt to acquire them in business by experience, would cost many embarrassments and mistakes of serious consequences.

The foregoing facts and remarks have been presented with a view to dispel the unjust prejudice that exists in the minds of persons who were opposed to a technical education; and to induce a more careful investigation of the merits of business colleges generally, in order that a proper discrimination may be made between good and worthless institutions of the same class, and for the interest of the rising generation, who must soon step on the stage of business life; and for the honor of our country, we trust that a thorough examination of the subject herein presented, will shortly be made.

Traveling Teachers of Penmanship.

BY PROF. A. SPENCER, JOLLA, ILL.

AS THIS seems to be a favorite theme for discussion by several of the leading contributors of the various penman's papers, perhaps a few words from one who served in the ranks for some time may not come entirely amiss. The theories and methods of some who have never tried the realities more than to make several attempts which have resulted for the most part in failure, reminds me of some of our renowned strategists during the late unpleasantness, who, after the battle had been fought and lost, were always discovering some miraculous plan, which, had they been heard and heeded, would have resulted in a marvellous victory, unfortunately these plans came everlastingly too late. The forepart of the war developed an astonishing number of just such generals, but as time went on we found theories and methods giving way to practical and stubborn fact; we found sober, modest men rising from the ranks to take the place of those whose ostentatious show of gilt-lieutenant's and feathers was all that could commend them to public favor. In fact, we saw a tanner come from his humble occupation to assume command of one of the grand armies ever marched in the field to lead it to victory. It may seem the height of absurdity to some to try to draw an analogy between the success of a general in the field and a teacher of penmanship, but we would do well to recollect what has been said by one of the greatest living authors, which is, that life in all its various phases is a battle-field of labor, and the teacher of penmanship in entering the field which I believe is pre-eminently useful calling, enters a field in which reared downy beads of ease, and success are as far apart as the equator and the poles. Eternal vigilance, works, ability, tact, talent, and "Never say die," is the price of true success.

There are few callings or professions requiring greater or more persistent effort for success and in which a greater percentage of these making the effort fail, than in the profession of the traveling writing teacher.

But the great point in the discussion is what is necessary to success. Professors Hinman and Shattuck wrote two very good articles upon the subject some time ago. I find however that Prof. Hinman's ideas as regards teachers paying their attention exclusively to large towns and ignoring small ones altogether, rather contrary to my own experience, although I have taught for several years in some of the largest towns of the east and west, and many times I have had large classes in some remote school district or districts, clubbing together and securing a large class, my expenses while teaching such classes would be very light compared with large towns.

The ability to secure a school room is one of the greatest hindrances that traveling penmen have to encounter. There seems to be a lurking prejudice by the teachers of the public schools everywhere against them which seems to be stronger as time advances, and this is mainly for reasons expressed by Prof. Shattuck, on account of so many frauds in the profession, the remedy suggested by him is a good one. That there are some unmitigated scoundrels who make their living by securing money in advance from students and then disappear, without rendering any equivalent, has in some localities created a suspicion and distrust of traveling teachers, and the only remedy is for teachers to show themselves competent and worthy of patronage, and collect their tuition near the close of their term. If he can do his duty he will not lose much of his pay. It should be borne in mind that it is much harder to get up a class in writing now than it was during the flush times that immediately succeeded the war, and of course tuition, &c., has to be put at much lower figures. I am aware in advocating this reduction of prices will

lay me open to attack from friend Hinman, but I shall maintain my position with what seems to me good argument and common sense. It is a well known fact that those who maintain our writing schools, and most other schools for that matter, come from the poor and middle classes, while the high-toned rich nabobs comprise but a very small part.

I believe that nearly or fully ninety per cent. of our writing classes are composed of the sons and daughters of the poor and middle classes, except in rare cases. It is also a well known fact that fully as large a proportion of our successful business men, millionaires, &c., come from this very same class, I regard it then the very height of absurdity for a teacher to put the tuition so very high in hard times like the present so that none but a few (pampered aristocrats) can have the advantage of a course of lessons. I have tried both methods myself, and have seen others do the same, and the universal verdict has been in favor of moderate tuition; the prices of everything has declined within the past year or two, and why should a teacher be extravagant in his demands more than any other person. I believe the price for a course of lessons as heretofore announced editorially in the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL altogether reasonable, and I believe that a teacher would be more apt to succeed on these prices than on higher terms. As regards private lessons, why this is quite another matter for those that are rich and can afford to

The teacher of penmanship who, by a long course of training, has learned the elements of letters, their combinations in letters and words and the various movements required in their formation, who rigidly adheres to certain essentially excellent and unvariable forms, and who imparts a knowledge of the same to his pupils, may be likened to the eagle of the fable, while the teacher who ignores all rule, and relies wholly upon movement, exercise, and a general unrestricted imitation of a copy which, to correspond to his peculiar system, or boasted lack of system, must of necessity be imperfect and variable, and who from such course anticipated greater practical results than by the former method of teaching, shall find his counterpart in the jackdaw of this same fable; and as he is not content with the hub of one approximately perfect style of Penmanship, must needs use, pounce upon the man of free, unrestricted, inconsistent and consequently impractical penmanship, and then becoming entangled in the web of doubt and uncertainty (perhaps having some of the wool pulled over his eyes by unscrupulous teachers who could not bear the drudgery of careful intelligent practice) he is captured by the shepherd who is not a scribbler, or an "ink-slinger" and with wings clipped he is taken home to the children and—the sequel is seen in the fable.

From a perusal of various articles which have from time to time appeared in the



pay for a private course of instruction. I have often received fifty cents per person, and considered that my services quite as beneficial, if not more so, than the music teacher, who received the same for an hour's instruction.

Which?

BY HENRI COOPER.

"An eagle made a swoop from a high rock, and carried off a lamb. A jackdaw, who saw the exploit, thinking that he could do the like, bore down with all the force he could muster upon a ram, intending to bear him off as a prize. But his claws becoming entangled in the wool, he made such a fluttering in his efforts to escape, that the shepherd, seeing through the whole matter, came up and caught him, and having clipped his wings, carried him home to his children at nightfall. 'What bird is this, father, that you have brought us?' exclaimed the children. 'Why,' said he, 'if you ask himself he will tell you that he is no eagle; but if you will take my word for it, I know him to be but a jackdaw.'"

The above fable, though originating in the fertile brain of Pagan nearly six centuries before the Christian era, quite fully foreshadows and embodies conditions at present existing.

JOURNAL, and from conversation with several penmen of my acquaintance, I learn that the idea, although not a growing one, yet prevails to a certain fortunately limited extent, that to acquire a good business hand-writing the pupil should be untrammelled by rules, and after becoming familiar with movements should be left to "follow his own sweet will" in order that his writing shall be legible and rapidly executed, and thus meet the demands of the times.

Now, I think it a fact conceded by all that legibility and rapidity are the two grand essentials of a business penman, but I am far from admitting that these results may be best attained by ignoring rules, or in any degree abating their force.

If the pupil have before him an engraved letter, and taught its exact proportions, and at first slowly, carefully and intelligently draw it, with finger, muscular, whole arm or combined movement, he shall by many repetitions attain to a mental conception of its form, and his pen will be moved in obedience to that mental conception, and by constant repetition he will acquire the ability to write with ease, freedom and exactness, and it is reasonable to believe, with much greater rapidity than would be the case were he to imitate a letter which to-day shall be made one way

and to-morrow another way, why it never so slightly.

Nor is this fact confined to penmanship alone. The artisan can execute his work much more rapidly if allowed to take his usual course. Go to the shoemaker and get a pair of shoes made to order, and although they may not appear better than those in stock, yet more time was required in their manufacture. Order a coat from a tailor and when you get it you may find not one stitch more upon the coat, nor any application of additional time having been required, but when you pay for it you will think it made expressly for you. And thus you will find through all the list of manufacturers, or the professions or whatever calling in which a man may engage that a lack of uniformity retards the execution of the work.

And movements alone count as nothing without fixed principles of action to restrain. A few years ago there was not a little enthusiasm generated by the introduction of a series of movement exercises cast in metal and which were to be followed by a corresponding movement in the groove thus made by pen, or wooden or metallic point held as a pen is held, but that enthusiasm soon met with a far deeper depression than the grooves in the metal told now the fact of the existence of such machinery is hardly known.

An adept may himself write with a considerable degree of abandon, but to permit a pupil to imitate such writing is the height of absurdity; for experience teaches that the imitation is certain to be an exaggeration of the deformity in the original. To advise this freedom in the practice of a youth is like giving him permission to indulge in Church lotteries, or some other occasional departure from the path of moral rectitude—a few white lies, with now and then a disordered one that he may enjoy a little freedom, or that the moral barriers may not seem so rigid and, so to speak, "impractical." He can't be perfect, reason they, why try to be. He can't reach the end—why aim so high?

There is a "broad road" of license in teaching penmanship as well as in morality, and there is also the "narrow way" of uniformity and if you wish to be among those who "find it,"

KINGSTON, Ohio, April 1, 1878.

Prof. D. T. Ames:

DEAR SIR—I have herein not only to acknowledge the receipt of your last number of THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, but also several other numbers which should have been acknowledged before.

Of these numbers I will not say which is superior. I can imagine nothing more elegant or better than either in this line. They are not only abundant in choice articles that revive old memories and lost friends, but are rich in wholesome instruction, each number being embellished by superb bits of art, and rich in every creative brain and cunning hand of genius and trained skill. I feel greatly obliged for these favors, and inclose a brief tribute to P. R. Spencer, which you will dispose of as you think best. Truly friends be to you, and your enterprises, and a well-wisher to yourself and co-workers always.

I remain, truly yours,
H. P. COOPER.

PHILADELPHIA, April 22, 1878.

Prof. Ames:

DEAR SIR—The back numbers of the JOURNAL have just arrived, and I am very glad that was able to get them.

And your paper as being far in advance of any periodical which has yet been published on the subject of penmanship, and I sincerely wish you the pecuniary success which you so richly deserve.

Fraternally,

H. W. FLICKINGER.

The specimen of flourishing represented upon this page was executed by G. A. Cusick, Mass. The cut was kindly loaned for use in the JOURNAL by the publishers of the *Home Guest*, Boston, Mass.



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Advertisements for one and three months, payable in advance; for six months and one year, payable quarterly in advance. No deviation from the above rates. Reading matter, 20 cents per line.

LITERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

We hope to make the JOURNAL an interesting and attractive that no penman or teacher who sees it with without either his subscription or a good word, but we want them to do more even than that, we desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, we therefore offer the following

PRIMES.

To every subscriber, until further notice, we will send a copy of the John B. Williams' master-piece, 12½ inches in size.

To any person writing their own and another penman's subscription, we will mail them the JOURNAL one year, and forward by return of mail to the sender, a copy of either of the following publications, each of which are among the finest specimens of penmanship ever published, viz.:

The Continental Picture of Progress.	2000 100 in. size
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For three names and \$5 we will forward the large Continental Picture, one 2000 inches, retail for \$2. For six names and \$6 we will forward a copy of Williams & Decker's Guide, retail for \$2.50.

For twelve subscribers and \$12 we will send a copy of Ames' Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship, price \$5. The same bound in gilt will be sent for eight subscribers and \$12.

For twelve names and \$12, we will forward a copy of Williams & Decker's text of Penmanship, retail for \$5.

All communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL should hereafter be addressed to the office of publication, 205 Broadway, New York.

For twelve subscribers and \$12 we will send a copy of Ames' Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship, price \$5. The same bound in gilt will be sent for eight subscribers and \$12.

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THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL.

205 Broadway, New York.

Give your name and address very distinctly.

NEW YORK, MAY, 1878.

The Journal and its Success.

Over two hundred subscriptions and renewals have been received during the month of April, while hundreds of letters complimenting and encouraging the JOURNAL have been received. In view of the great financial depression which has prevailed throughout the country during the past year, and the great distrust regarding the continuance of the JOURNAL which led many, at the outset, to withhold their subscription and encouragement, the success of the JOURNAL, has been quite extraordinary.

It is now not only firmly established, but numbers among its thousands of patrons, with few exceptions, all the reputable teachers, and many pupils of writing and bookkeeping throughout the United States and Canada, with quite a respectable number in foreign countries.

The great benefit resulting to the profession from such a periodical can hardly be over-estimated. It is a medium through which the strong and liberal minds of the profession are able to present their thoughts and experiences for the aid and encouragement of others less thoughtful and experienced, which also tends to encourage modest merit and diminish conceit and bigotry, as each is measured with the other through the columns of the JOURNAL. As evidence of the degree of earnestness, ability, and success, with which we have labored to render it desirable and profitable to its patrons, we point to the JOURNAL as our best witnesses; at the same

time we assure its friends and patrons that no effort will be spared to render it in the future, in every way better than the past.

Personal Identity in Hand-Writing.

The frequent occurrence of cases in courts of justice and elsewhere, involving the genuineness of hand-writing, to determine which, recourse is had to professional experts, has led to many and sharp controversies regarding the reliability and real value of such conclusions, as may be reached by experts from the examination and comparison of hand writing.

We are not among those who claim infallibility for the experts, neither do we believe with others who deny that there is any reliability to be placed in the opinion of a skillful expert regarding writing.

A hand, with the pen, constitutes a machine for the mechanical execution of writing. The pupil while learning to write may be said to be learning to operate that machine. He at first operates it slowly with difficulty and hesitation, but gradually with practice and care its operations become more and more rapid, skillful and certain, until at length the great force of habit its operations become almost automatic, and with only slight variations in form and character, it performs all the operations of writing, independent of any conscious aid from the mind, which is wholly absorbed in the preparation of matter being thus transcribed. The hand thus disciplined from long habit imparts to writing certain natural peculiar, and natural characteristics which are fixed and arbitrary, being as independent of any mental operation or direct intention as is the peculiar gait or motion of the hands and arms while walking; by these peculiarities the writing is as easily and certainly identified, as is the writer of the same by his figure, physiognomy, voice, and other peculiar personal characteristics.

This force of habit imparts not only a peculiar general appearance to writing, but the several letters, penular forms, make peculiar shades, turns, connections, spaces, and combinations, has a certain method in beginning and ending words, crossing the S's, dotting the T's, &c., &c. These peculiarities being habitual, independent of the will, and entirely unobserved by the writer, cannot suddenly and at pleasure be sufficiently concealed or avoided to escape identity any more than a man could avoid personal identity by change in dress, tone of voice, &c., although he might thus deceive some persons unfamiliar with his personal appearance among his more intimate associates such efforts would be too thin; he would not only be recognized but subjected to ridicule.

To understand and be able, by analysis of handwriting to point out those peculiar individual characteristics, and to draw the correct inference therefrom is the office of an expert.

As one may very easily make a general disguise of his person so as to deceive un familiar persons, but with difficulty his more intimate associates, so a writer may easily so change the general appearance of his writing as to deceive the casual observer, and still retain almost every habitual characteristic, which will be at once apparent to the eye of an expert, the use of penmanship, therefore, is a variation from the usual speed in writing, a change from the customary slope instantly makes an entire change in the general appearance of writing—these are changes which any writer with a little thought can introduce and maintain in his writing at pleasure, but he cannot suddenly at once and avoid all the multitudinous peculiarities in the formation of letters and their combinations in writing, which are the outgrowth of long habit, and which the hand now instinctively (and to the mind unconsciously) reveals; such peculiarities cannot be avoided or suppressed at pleasure, but will inevitably remain vigorous as reliable for the identity of hand writing, as is physiognomy for the identification of the writer.

The Penman's Convention.

The attention of all persons interested as teachers or authors of writing and book-keeping, is earnestly invited to the communications and report relating to the proposed Penman's Convention, on another page of the JOURNAL. We can but urge upon the attention of all thus interested the vast importance to these professions of such an assembly, or the great uncertainty should the present occasion be allowed to pass unimproved, or from lack of a general support, fail of being a grand and glorious success; such a success as will dignify, honor, and enlighten the profession; its failure all would feel, to be not only a humiliation but a great misfortune. We hope all will at once manifest their interest, and signify their intention to be present by communicating to the Committee on Convention, office of PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL.

Let us have prompt and united effort, and there can be nothing short of the grandest result.

The Journal as a Medium of Advertising.

The present large circulation of the JOURNAL, teaching, as it does, a very large majority of all the teachers of writing and bookkeeping in the country, renders it a most effective medium for advertising books, merchandise and materials desired in those professions.

Teachers seeking situations, and persons desiring to employ teachers will find the columns of the JOURNAL an effective medium.

The fact that no advertisement not in line with the objects of the JOURNAL are solicited, and quite a limited number of others are desired, renders it doubly valuable to the few who do advertise.

Phillips' New Series of Copy Books.

We are in receipt of a series of four numbers of writing books, from Prof. J. E. Phillips, Central Square, N. Y. They are made on a new plan; in the first cover is a pocket containing the copies on slips designated to be practiced in each book. The slip is placed directly above the line to be written upon, and moved down the page line after line, to follow the practice of the pupil. The copies are systematic, well engraved, and well graded for use in public schools. These books will especially commend themselves to teachers who advocate the use of movable copy slips in teaching writing.

Brown's Complete Business Guide

is a concise and practical work of 160 pages, treating upon book-keeping, commercial calculations, business correspondence and commercial law. It seems to be a meritorious work, one well adapted for use as a text-book in all grades of schools and colleges.

It is well bound in cloth and sent for examination for \$1.10 per copy. See advertisement in another column.

Practical Lessons in Flourishing.

Owing to the great amount of very interesting matter that has been presented for insertion in the present issue we have been obliged to defer commencing that course until the next issue, when we shall commence by giving an excellent illustration of the correct position with explanation of movement, &c. We shall spare no pains to make this course of the greatest value and aid to all interested in this fascinating department of penmanship.

Business Education.

We earnestly commend to the careful consideration of all persons interested in business colleges, the very able article upon the subject, on page 2, from the pen of Prof. Van Sprinkle, principal of Buchan School, Springfield, Ohio. It is seldom that we have had the pleasure of reading so able and clear a vindication of the business college as is therein presented.

Renewal of Subscriptions.

Subscribers who desire to continue to receive the JOURNAL should not fail to renew their subscriptions, as the Journal will in all cases be discontinued at the end of the period for which the subscription is paid.

Persons desiring to purchase any kind of card-stock should address the New England Card Co., Woonsocket, R. I.

Persons who desire to awaken an interest in writing on the part of their children, and teachers who desire to continue, to success, the interest awakened by them in their pupils should certainly commend them to subscribe for the JOURNAL.

Teachers and pupils of ornamental penmanship will find "Ames' Compendium" the most complete guide and assistant ever published. Read what is said of it on page five.

Business College Items.

Colorado Academy and Business College, Denver, is now solicited on April 25, ex-Governor John Evans presiding. Able and interesting addresses were made by ex-Governor Evans, ex-Governor Griffin, Attorney-General Sampson and others, accompanied with music, and terminated with a general collection. Judging from the three column report in the Rocky Mountain News, the whole affair was a splendid success.

The business department is in charge of W. W. Williamson and D. S. Pence.

The Spencerian Business College at Chicago, Illinois, is in highly prosperous condition, two hundred and twenty-five students being at present in attendance. On Friday evening, April 5, the students and friends of the college held a grand reunion.

Prof. P. R. Spencer, the Proprietor, is deservedly popular with his students.

Prof. H. E. Hubbard, principal of the R. & S. Commercial school of Boston, is enjoying an unprecedented degree of success. On the evening of March 28, there was a grand reunion and reception of the former pupils of the school, which, judging from the flattering notice from the Boston press, was a most complete and gratifying success.

W. R. Glen, formerly of Springfield, Illinois, has purchased of E. K. Bryan, a one-third interest in the Columbus Business College. Both Messrs. Bryan & Glen are skillful penmen and representative teachers in their profession. A college conducted under their combined efforts will merit large success.

Prof. S. S. Puckard has inaugurated a regular course of Friday afternoon lectures before the students of his college, which, judging from the flattering notice from the Boston press, was a most complete and gratifying success.

The Colorado Academy and Business College, Denver, gave a grand public reception on the evening of April 5. The college is conducted by Schlen R. Hopkins and is in a flourishing condition.

H. C. Clark, has recently purchased the Atlas Commercial College at Rockford, Ill. The institution will hereafter be known as the forest City Business College.

Exchange Items.

The Penman's Art Journal, published by Clark & Wieting, Toledo, Iowa, for February, has been received. It is superior in all respects to any penman's journal received. It is well presented, and well filled, with interesting matter. We hope its contents will have been quite irregular, will hereafter be more regular and frequent.

The Evening at Home is published monthly by H. A. Munaw, Orrville, Ohio. It is well filled with choice reading matter.

will bring something of the substantial results of their work. On this point I most heartily approve Mr. Packard's suggestion, and shall not feel that all the necessary work has been done unless it is carried into effect. It is not advisable to show off the skill of some phenomenal writer or mathematician, nor a set of books that has cost some plodder twice the time and labor they are worth. Instead of this a most welcome contribution could be made of the average writing of whole classes, or the entire sets of books of certain students. Teachers exhibiting such meritorious work should be able to give valuable advice to others.

There is much room for discussion of the writing teachers methods—fine cursive course pens, lessons to beginners, movements and movement exercises, writing from dictionaries, &c., &c. Suggestions might also be made on various courses of instruction in business colleges. While I believe the ability of commercial teachers is equal to that of any other class, I am led to believe that we are behind in many things pertaining to methods.

I shall be glad to hear the general voice, and trust it will speak through the May number of the JOURNAL.

Very truly yours,
C. E. CADY.

WYOMING COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,
KINGSTON, PA., April 19, 1878.

MYERS Editors:

DEAR SIRS:—The friends of business colleges are pleased, I think, to know that the proposed Convention is a "fixed fact." The committee of arrangements named by the JOURNAL, with the addition of the name of D. T. Ames, undoubtedly "fill the bill," and an evidence of the assured success of the Convention is found in the fact that all are impressed with the idea that no time should be lost in preparing for it. Very much of the profit and interest of the occasion will also be determined by the programme, which I hope the committee will immediately take in hand.

Personally I would prefer August 6 for date. That would give opportunity for many to start Monday morning and arrive in time for the opening. Four days, in my opinion, would be sufficient time to serve the purposes of the first convention, closing Friday afternoon or evening by a general jubilation meeting with "feast of reason and flow of soul," and giving most of us opportunity to arrive home the same week.

Without any particular preference, and fully appreciating the magnanimity of the western colleges in indorsing the movement, it seems to me in starting these conventions we should begin at New York and thereafter "follow the course of empire."

Very truly,
S. S. SPRAGUE.

VAN SICKLE'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
SPRINGFIELD, O., April 9, 1878.

Editor of the Penman's Art Journal:

SIR:—I am in favor of the proposed Convention of the Teachers of Penman of Business Colleges. Let it be at New York city, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, or any other central locality; and July or August the time. Physicians and other teachers have their associations; why should not we? Every penman, teacher, and author of bookkeeping should favor such a convention and do all in his power to be present.

Yours,
J. W. VAN SICKLE.

PACKARD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
NEW YORK, April 15, 1878.

Prof. Ames: I should be glad to attend the proposed convention at any point between Portland and New Orleans from which the seacoast is easily accessible. My habit is to spend "vacation" after the manner of the purpose. New York is in the vicinity of Coney Island Beach, and if this doesn't account for the existence of the city, it

proves to my mind that it is the best place for the meeting.

In August the water is delightful. If this city and Coney Island are to be decided upon, I favor as the committee on preliminaries the gentlemen you named in your April number of your JOURNAL.

But there should be a convention, however or wherever.

Yours truly,
WM. ALLEN MILLER.

Although we have not received as numerous a response to our propositions in the April number of the JOURNAL as we hoped, sufficient has been received to indicate a wide-spread and general interest in the subject, as the following articles and report will indicate. Many whom we know from personal knowledge to favor and desire to attend such an assembly have made no response. Between thirty or forty communications, all favoring it have been received. As will be seen a very large majority favor New York as the place, and August 5th or 6th as the time for holding the same. We are confident that, all things being considered, this is a wise conclusion. While it will undoubtedly inconvenience many, and perhaps deter from attending some of our extreme western and southern brethren, we feel certain that a much larger number will attend than if held elsewhere. The first convention will, in order to be successful,

Prof. Sprague and Dean, of Wyoming Commercial College, Kingston, Pa., both favor New York and Aug. 6.

A. C. Cooper, Lauderline Co., Miss., favors the Convention; does not promise to attend.

Thomas A. Rice, St. Louis, Mo., favors the Congress, and St. Louis as the place, July the time.

M. E. Bennett, Schenectady, N. Y., will attend at New York, Aug. 6.

G. A. Shattuck, Medina, N. Y., will attend at New York, Aug. 6.

H. C. Wright, Brooklyn, N. Y., will attend at New York, Aug. 6.

J. B. Morgan, Haddon Neck, Conn., will attend. Thinks no place more auspicious than Packard's Hall; favors Aug. 6.

Jas. McBride, New Vienna, will attend; favors Cincinnati, Ohio, and Aug. 6.

E. L. Burnett, Elmira, N. Y., will attend, New York, Aug. 6.

L. Moon, Revere, Ohio, will attend, desires it to be held at Cincinnati, Ohio.

W. P. Belford, Falmouth, Ky., favors Lexington, Ky.

A. C. Blackman, Green Bay, Wis., says he cannot attend, but is very anxious the Convention should be held. He thinks some Western city preferable to New York as the place. He also suggests that all interested, who cannot attend, should send a written communication, giving their views and experiences relating to some one or more of the subjects likely to come under the consideration of the Convention, also that the same be read and published in pamphlet form with addresses, and the other proceedings of the Convention for reference, and the benefit of those who are unable to attend.

We consider the foregoing and other assurances we have received sufficient to sustain our assertion in the April issue of



J. E. PHILLIPS, CENTRAL SQUARE, N. Y.

require much thought and preliminary labor, in advertising, arranging programme, securing speakers, and the influence of the press, etc., which can be more readily and successfully accomplished in a metropolis than elsewhere. For the future we will say with Brother Sprague, "follow the course of empire."

We would gladly give all communications in full, but want of space forbids. We therefore give the following summary: Thomas Powers, Fort Wayne, Ind., says hold the convention May 5th, at New York. I endorse your committee and will try to attend.

James H. Lemay, held the Convention in New York, Aug. 6. I approve your plan.

E. K. Bryan, Columbus, Ohio, favors the Convention and Columbus, Ohio, as the place.

G. R. Rathbun, Omaha, strongly favors the Convention and Columbus, Ohio, as the place.

H. E. Hubbard, Prim. B. and S. Business College, Boston, will attend, New York, Aug. 6.

P. Duff & Sons, Pittsburgh, Pa., will attend or be represented at any time or place. H. Russell will attend; favors Chicago as the place.

Chas. French, Pres. French's Business College, Boston, will attend at New York, Aug. 6.

W. R. Childs offers the use of his commodious college rooms at Lexington, Ky., free, and thinks that to behold the beautiful scenery in those regions would do Eastern men good.

the JOURNAL, that the holding of a Convention, and its success, is assured. The Committee of Arrangements named by the JOURNAL have been almost unanimously endorsed, with numerous suggestions that the editor of the JOURNAL be aided, which honor, notwithstanding his great modesty, he will not decline. At the earnest request of Prof. Packard, Prof. William Allen Miller will take Mr. Packard's place upon the Committee. With the exception of my editor, these gentlemen composing the Committee are representative men in the profession, and will do all that can be done to ensure the success of the Convention. The Committee will proceed to take immediate action toward the accomplishment of the object for which they have been designated, and since it is now settled that a Convention is to be held, and the time and place apparently fixed, we especially urge upon the attention of all in any manner interested in its success to at once put their shoulders to the wheel. While the Committee may do much, it is not in their power alone to command success, that can only come from a strong, full and united effort of the fraternity. Until further notice, suggestions and communications relating to the Convention may be addressed,

COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION,
Office of PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL,
205 Broadway, New York.

Autographs.

In this column we shall insert, in each issue, a limited number of the autographs of prominent penmen and authors. When cuts are furnished, they will be inserted free. If engraved by us, a charge of \$1.50 will be made, which will include a duplicate cut to be sent by mail to the person represented. Cuts must not exceed 2½ inches (or the width of one column) in length. Autographs furnished for us to engrave should be either the exact size desired, viz. 2½ inches long, or just twice the length, viz. 5 inches in length.

Edw. Price.

Is an accomplished penman and teacher. Supt. Penmanship, Keokuk (Iowa) city schools; Prof. of Penmanship, Keokuk Mercantile College, and proprietor Peirce's Normal Penmanship Institute.

W. B. Higgins.

Is a good writer. Teacher of Penmanship at Green Mountain, Perkins' Academy, South Woodstock, Vermont.

J. P. Miller.

Is one of our most skillful writers and floorishers, and Prof. of Penmanship at the Keystone Business College, Lancaster, Pa.

H. C. Clark.

Proprietor of Forest City Business College, Rockford, Ill., and is a very skillful penman.

J. E. Phillips.

Is author and publisher of "Phillips' Practical System of Penmanship." Central Square, N. Y. He is an expert writer and successful teacher.

W. B. Phillips.

Writes well for a young penman. He is now writing cards at Elmira, N. Y.

W. B. Phillips.

Is a rising young penman at Elizabeth, N. J., where he is a popular teacher in several private schools and academies.

Geo. Thompson, Jr.

Is the well-known expert and round hand penman. His style of writing is peculiarly adapted for all legal documents. This signature is remarkable for its apparently having no beginning or end.



Published Monthly, at 205 Broadway, for \$1.00 per Year.

D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor.
F. W. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1878.

VOL. II. NO. 3.

Cards of Penman and Business Colleges, occupying three lines of space, will be inserted in this column for \$2.50 per year.

G. B. SHATTUCK,

General Agent American Copy Books,
IVISON, BLAKEMAN, TAYLOR & CO., New York.

PACKARD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
805 BROADWAY, New York.

GEORGE STIMPSON, JR.,
EXPERT AND PENMAN,
205 Broadway, New York.

WRIGHT'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
Broadway and Fourth Street,
BROOKLYN, E. D.

D. T. AMES,
ARTIST PENMAN AND PUBLISHER,
205 Broadway, New York.

POTTER, AINSWORTH & CO.,
PUBLISHERS OF D. & S. STANDARD COPY-BOOKS
31 Park Place, New York.

D. APPLETON & CO.,
Publishers,
549 and 551 Broadway, New York.

Eminent Penmen of Olden Times.

BY W. B. SHATTUCK.

FOURTH ARTICLE.

MATERO, VELDE, BARBENDOR, PERLING.

In 1750, Mr. Joseph Champion published in London "THE PARALLEL OR COMPARATIVE PENMANSHIP EXHIBITED IN FIVE OF THE GREATEST ORIGINAL FOREIGN MASTERS, viz.: L. Matero, G. Vanden Velde, L. Barbendor, Ambrose Perling." It contains twenty-four oblong folio plates and four pages of letter press. Mr. Thorowgood engraved it. The whole is an elaborate and curious performance, and Mr. Thorowgood, though he performed the part of a curious engraver, acknowledges that *no graver can fully come up to the neatness, spirit and freedom that there is in the author's hand.*

In English works on penmanship frequent mention is made of the names mentioned above as the equal, if not the superiors, of their contemporary English penmen. The information I can glean is so meagre that I purpose to present in this article all I am able to learn about them.

LUCAS MATERO.

was an Italian of Ancona. "His genius led him to the sole practice of the Italian hand, which he executed after so exceedingly neat and beautiful a manner that he flourished without a rival, was the admiration of all his contemporary professors, and the darling of the ladies. He obliged the world by his productions in the year of our Lord 1604."

JAN VANDEN VELDE.

was a Dutchman of Rotterdam (Masey says of Antwerp), contemporary with Matero, his works were published at Amsterdam in 1605. He principally studied and practised the beauties of the German text. In an essay on the Art of Writing, by Robert More, writing master, published in the second part of "Natural Writing," by George Shelley, London, 1714, I find the following notice of Velde:

"The immortal Velde stands in the first rank, whose very faults (if any) I know not the man that hath ability to copy. We have a manuscript of his in England but imperfect; the D (a curious sprigged letter), being unfortunately lost."

Bickham, in "Penmanship in its Utmost Beauty and Extent," published in 1731, says: "A very correct manuscript of this great man is now in the hands of Mr. Zachary Chambers, which has for many years been esteemed an inimitable performance by all the judges that have ever seen it; but since his purchase of that invaluable treasure he has, through the dint of a happy genius and an unwearied industry and application, made the nearest advances of any man to the freedom and beauty of that surprising original," and Massey, thirty years later, says: "Mr. Chambers has in his possession an excellent manuscript of the aforesaid Velde, deemed the best thing of the kind in the kingdom. He purchased it of Mr. Beard, a writing master near Radcliff Cross, for twenty-five guineas" (about \$125).

LOUIS BARBENDOR.

was a Frenchman, and published in Paris in 1647. "He wrote a very large and curious copy-book in various hands. His natural genius inclined him principally to the practice of round hand, in which he excelled. His learners, however, our British masters have to their eternal honor happily improved, as several curious pieces in this undertaking (Bickham's Penmanship in its Utmost Beauty and Extent), will undoubtedly demonstrate."

AMBROSE PERLING.

Ambrose Perling not only wrote but engraved his copies; was the next exquisite master that was distinguished in Holland. He made the round hand, as being best adapted to business, his more immediate study, and the freedom that appeared in his originals had a grace inexpressible. He published his works at Amsterdam in 1679-1685."

These sketches, brief as they are, give about all that can be learned of these once prominent writing masters, and will serve to give some general knowledge to the reader, of four men not born on English soil, prominent among the penmen of olden times.

The Pen as a Means of Culture.

BY PAUL PARSONS.

Art, more than any other element, has served to raise man in his gradual attainment of civilization and culture. The aesthetic part of our natures is far more largely endowed than the practical or philosophical; and it is by a constant emulation of the beautiful and the pleasing that man acquires nobility and loftiness of character. Witness the natural tendency in the surpassing industry which the world pays to its artists, its poets, painters, composers, authors, architects. How much dearer the name of John Milton to English lips than that of the great philosopher Newton; and yet the latter was a man of more practical worth to England and the nations of the globe than all the bay-crowned poets of the centuries. Such is the power of art, such its influence upon our lives as individuals, as nations, as men.

Art and culture have long come to be considered synonymous terms. It is very hard for us to picture an artist as a rough, uncultivated being, expressing in his person none of the tender graces which transform and illumine the souls of others through his thoughts and fancies. On the other hand, I have just finished reading an article on the greatest inventor of modern times, Edison, who has set the world agog with his wonderful revelations in the realm of science. The correspondent who was admitted to an interview with this remarkable man describes him as a raw, unkempt, carelessly-dressed individual, "with a large quid of tobacco continually in his cheek." Now, I do not suppose that the phonograph will suffer one whit in the estimation of the people for this bit of disclosure, but what should we think of "Hawatha"—a production almost as unique, in its way, as the invention of our young scientist—had some newspaper reporter found Mr. Longfellow in his literary workshop delving the floor with tobacco juice, and counterbalancing by his crude and careless appearance every sweet thought and rare fancy in that bit of marvellous metre!

So far, then, as a man is an artist, we look to him for culture and beauty of character, for purity, elegance, nobility, and all the finer characteristics of the soul. Nature's nobility is not, according to the old proverb, her child of toil, but her child of sympathy, of quick heart, of vivid emotion. When we attempt to single out the most remarkable means of culture, we find that no instrument has felt the touch of master-hands so often as the pen. These idols of art, these adorable geniuses, have impressed themselves upon humanity through so simple a medium as a point of clefied staff! The world is aglow to-day with the sunset fancies of how many men whose only wand of transformation was a hollow reed and a cup of gall! How, then, can we fail to honor the pen, that pious agent of so much light and beauty?

But it is not in this pen aspect that I wish to present to you the pen as a means of culture. There is another view which is equally striking and less familiar. I refer to the culture which may be derived from the mere *wielding of the pen*, apart from the thoughts which its passage over paper transcribes. There is probably no simpler, more voluntary exercise in form and symmetry than that afforded by the pen. Give a boy the means of writing, and he will eventually produce pleasing forms. It comes natural to follow the flow and interlacing of the manifold letters, to reproduce in rapid succession the same studies which masters of the art in all ages have exhausted their skill upon. On the other hand, provide a boy with sketching materials, and in nine cases out of every ten he will succeed in producing only a senseless blur, no more like his copy than the blank surface of the sheet itself. We see, then, a natural taste in most minds for this form of art, this gate-way to the great temple of culture; and by following this inclination, I believe, that the more uncultivated masses might attain such a

love for beautiful forms and such a facility in producing them as to really elevate and ennoble their thoughts and lives. For why should not one branch of true art possess as potent an influence for good as another? and why should this most practical and simple of all the departments of art be inferior to its supplements in elevating the human mind and heart? To teachers of this delightful and useful art, therefore, say I, God-speed; and may the time soon come when every man, woman and child in the land shall learn the beauty and depth of culture which may lie in that little wand of wonder, the Pen.

Trifles Necessary to Good Penmanship.

BY PROF. R. BUNSELL, JOLIET, ILL.

"Little drops of water, little grains of sand,
And the mighty ocean and the boundless land;
And the little molecule, humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages of eternity."

These were words that we learned when a child, and how often have we thought of them since when teaching penmanship, and how profound! impressed have been with that grand old truth, that if we would succeed, let us look well to minor details in every particular. The neglect to attend to trifles has been the cause of more failures than any one thing that I have ever known, both as regards teachers of penmanship and those engaged in various other pursuits. A little neglect may breed great mischief; for want of a nail the shoe was lost, for want of a shoe the horse was lost; and for want of a horse the rider was lost, being overtaken and slain by the enemy; all for want of a little care about a horse-shoe nail. Precisely in the very same manner have we known writing teachers, who were well qualified in every other particular, to fail ignominiously by their non-attention to the trifling details of the business. Some that were able to make splendid specimens of penmanship have made most dismal failures as teachers, because they could not be made to understand this one vital and essential element of success. In a recently contested will case, in the city of Philadelphia, the trifling error of an attorney who left out one word cost his clients \$500,000. Well begun is half done, is a time honored maxim, and in nothing is it more applicable than in learning to write. Who ever saw a teacher who commenced right, was careful to seize upon every opportunity, however trifling, to contribute to his success, ever fail? Just how failures occur by neglecting trifles is the point that I am sure is a vital factor in the problem, that should by no means be ignored.

I will give an illustration of a young, inexperienced teacher whom I was acquainted with several years ago. He was a graduate of a first-class commercial college and a good penman; came out well, so many do, to teach writing. He said he was going to teach at a certain place, and requested me to call on him when he got his class fairly under way; which I promised to do. At a certain time I called on him, and found, by the many murmurs of dissatisfaction, that everything was not

altogether as lovely as he had represented. On attending his class that evening several things which he thought altogether too trifling to be thought of for a moment, were just exactly what was causing the whole difficulty. Each pupil took his pen and fell to writing as best he might, some of them doing their level best to see how many pages they could get over during the evening, while others had that slow, unworldly, snail-like movement, that was truly most painful to witness. As to position, Jack Falsdale's recruits in their palatial desks could not begin to assume one-half of the different positions; and as to pens and writing material, the saints defend and the readers of the JOURNAL excuse us from attempting in our limited space to describe the various kinds of pens, the many different colored inks, and the various shapes and kinds of paper that were used on that occasion; it would be impossible to describe it, suffice it to say that the course of lessons was voted by all the class of pupils a fiasco, and it is said that the teacher left between two days to avoid arrest as an impostor. How true this may be I do not know, but I know that he made a most miserable failure, out of which might have been a grand success, had he looked more carefully to the proficiency of his pupils, and insisted on each maintaining a proper position and giving them the proper instructions in the movements, and also of keeping good order. These things seemed to him, so he told me, altogether too trifling to occupy his attention for a moment, hence the result; and who shall say that some one or more kindred faults is not what causes the failure of a great many of our best penmen when they attempt to impart their skill to others. Forewarned is forearmed, then let all remember, as all desire that success should crown their efforts that nothing, seem it to be ever so trifling, if it can contribute to your success, be not overlooked, for, like poor Warner, you may fail by ignoring that which you need above all other things to give you success.

Modesty among Penmen.

Is there any tangible reason why penmen should be more conceited than other people?

None is apparent, and yet there are those in the profession who exhibit these traits to a remarkable degree, especially the younger portion.

It is needless to say that there are in the profession many penmen who are as modest and gentlemanly as the most conscientiously upright men in any other business, may, note, the penman's profession contains some of the most finished, cultivated, and unassuming gentlemen that society produces. This statement, however, does not antagonize the other in the least. Undeniable proof of our statement may be found by referring to the advertising columns of this paper—otherwise a model of good sense and excellence.

Our object in writing this is to invite attention to a number of advertisements for written cards, pen-and-ink designs, etc. No names will be mentioned, and it is hoped will be offensive, as it is the principle that is attacked and not the individual.

Of a dozen advertisements of this kind, ten claim to do the best work. The following are a few literal quotations. The titles are my own. "Samples of the hand-drawn written cards ever executed with the pen."

"The hand-drawn thing you ever saw."

Another aspirant utters "the most beautiful ever work-out by any penman."

Here is a modest assertion: "I execute in the most perfect and artistic manner a variety of plain and ornamental pen-and-ink designs." Another retiring young man advertises "One dozen elegantly written cards, unsurpassed for grace and beauty, and a most beautiful pen-and-ink design, with grace and delicacy unsurpassed for 25c. Another man makes the timid venture that he can make the "finest second cards in

America," while still another aspirant for fame writes, according to his own limited opinion, the "most beautiful cards in America." While one candidate for patronage entreats the public to "send 50c. for the most beautiful and masterly piece of off-hand flourishing ever executed," another beseeches us to "send 50c. for one of the most BEAUTIFUL and MASTERLY PIECES OF FLOURISHING EVER EXECUTED." The small capitals are his own. Here are two pairs of experts who have been impressed with an identical idea. It only proves again that "Great minds run in the same channel."

What but an alumnus' heart could resist the appeal and squander 50c. for the most beautiful and masterly thing ever executed—but they are both best, and there's the rub—he is in a dilemma as to which he shall order from. The following is really interesting in its display of unpretending modesty: "—who has no equal as a card writer in the United States, a fact conceded even by his opponents, writes 13 cards in a style that has made — famous for 18c."

Eighteen cents' worth of fame ought to crush any common mortal; but this penman has reached the top of the ladder, (together with the other nine) and having received the commendation he graciously receives their willingly conceded homage and wears the writer's palm with unassuming grace, and—consequently to write 13 cards for 18c.

To drop sarcasm, however, we venture to advise that some of these individuals never saw the first-class pen-work of the ablest men in our profession, but have talent that should be developed by experienced penmen, and their talent is brought before the public.

They are "cock of the bull" in their own town, and are led, by the well-meant, but ignorant praises of their friends, to believe they are the best card-writers and flourishers in the United States.

We give them all due credit for what talent they possess, and judge their work according to the knowledge they have acquired, but would counsel them to engage in something entirely useful, for we admit, also, that some of these penmen may execute really fine work, but that does not excuse them from conceited and self-glorifying advertisements.

Their praises, if ever sung, should be warbled by others, and not proved from their own mouths. If the press, or an influential penman ever said a good word for *that* work, that would be a suitable thing to say. That is a legitimate and commonly accepted way of advertising.

These advertisers seem to forget, when they make these extravagant statements, that there were and are such professional men as The Spencers, father and sons, J. D. Williams, D. T. Anns, J. W. Payson, A. H. Hinman, W. H. F. Winchester, Professors Ellsworth, Montgomery, Mossman, Gaskell, Miller, and many others, whose work we have before an admiring public for years, and have earned for themselves reputations which need no trumpet blast from themselves.

Let us cite some parallel examples in other branches of art, and observe how ridiculous they appear. An artist who advertised his work in the manner given below, would be at once adjudged to be a conceited exorbitant, as well as a miserable dabbler. "N. B. Send me \$10 for the most beautifully artistic and grand conception ever executed in America. My style of work is unsurpassed for delicacy and brilliancy, and cannot be excelled. My landscapes are the most superb things you ever saw."

And imagine a half dozen artists (?) trying of in the same style of self-adulation. Imagine a singer advertising himself thus: "Those wishing the services of an excellent singer should apply immediately to Signor Bombasto. He has a most brilliant and exceedingly melodious voice, and the grace and brilliancy of his execution is

unparalleled in the history of music in the United States. He must be heard 25c. per hour." (Send ten cents for a sample descriptive circular!)

In the advertisements for card and pen-and-ink work, in the JOURNAL for the past year, there were but two discovered that did not avow of this catch-penny style. These were refreshing cases in the arid desert of self-adulation. I quote them in full, with the omission of names: "Writing cards written and sent by mail at following rates. Plain Spencerian, 25c. Twelve different designs facsimiles of pen work, 40c.; pen flourished, \$1. Samples, 25c."

"A rare offer. To penmen and learners. For \$1.00 I shall send, post-paid and carefully rolled, eight different designs of off-hand flourishing. These specimens are executed in sheets 10x16 in size."

If we were going to order some penmanship, in entire ignorance of the merits of all the advertisers, we would undoubtedly order of one of these gentlemen.

Perhaps we would not get first-class work, but what of that?

We are not disappointed, for they did not advertise their work as the best, and there was no reason for expecting it, except the confidence imparted by their unpretending and modest manner of advertising. Let us consider for a moment the evils attending the first style of advertising. The prime evil is the injury that it inflicts upon the profession of Penmanship at large, by degrading it in the eyes of the public to a mere quick business and giving them a chance to look down upon it, while the sincere friends and workers of the profession are striving to advance its standard to a higher grade. As a secondary consideration, they injure themselves and do not, after all, attain the object aimed at.

First, because their manner of advertising does not command respect, nor inspire confidence, and sensible people avoid them. Second, because they injure what trade they may have started by not being able to fulfill their promises.

All of the above cannot send out for best work, either theoretically or practically. If a man is blundered once, he learns a lesson by experience; but he is foolish if he allows himself to be duped in the same way again.

When this evil is eradicated, Penmanship will take a more exalted position in the business as well as the social community.

The preparation of this article was prompted by a desire to do good, and, if possible, institute a reform in this matter. If in our earnestness, we have oversteered the mark, we are truly repentant. We close with the earnestly expressed desire that the advertisements in the JOURNAL may both advance in quantity and improve in quality. W. L. G.

The Significance of a Billion.

Mr. Henry Bessemer writes as follows to the London Times: "It would be curious to know how many of your readers have brought fully home to their mind consciousness the real significance of that little word 'billion,' which we have seen of late so glibly used in your columns."

"Let us briefly take a glance at it as measure of time, distance and weight. As a measure of time, I would take one second as the unit, and carry myself in thought through the lapse of years back to the first day of the first year of our era, remembering that in all those years we have 365 days, and in every day just 86,400 seconds of time. Hence, in returning in thought back again to this year of grace 1878, one might have supposed that a billion of seconds had long since elapsed; but that is not so. We have not even passed one-sixtieths of that number in all these long eventful years, for it takes just 31,687 years, seventeen days, twenty-two hours, forty-five minutes, and five seconds to constitute a billion of seconds of time."

"It is no easy matter to bring under the cognizance of the human eye a billion objects of any kind. Let us try in imagination to arrange this number for inspection, and for this purpose I would select a sovereign as a familiar object. Let us put one on the ground and pile upon it as many as will reach twenty feet in height; then let us place numbers of similar columns in close contact, forming a straight line, and making a sort of wall twenty feet high, showing only the thin edges of the coin. Imagine two such walls running parallel to each other and forming, as it were, a long street. We must then keep on extending these walls for miles—say, hundreds of miles, and still we will be far short of the required number. And it is not until we have extended our imaginary street to a distance of 2,386½ miles that we shall have presented for inspection our one billion of coins."

"Or on the line of arrangement, we may place them flat upon the ground, forming one continuous line like a long golden chain, with every link in close contact. But to do this we must pass over land and sea, mountains and valley, desert and plain, crossing the equator, and retracing our way around the southern hemisphere through the trackless ocean, retrace our way again across the equator, then still on and on, until we again arrive at our starting point; and when we have thus passed a golden chain around the huge bulk of the earth, we shall be but at the beginning of our journey. To extend this imaginary chain so less than 703 times around the globe. If we can further imagine all these rows of links laid closely side by side and every one in contact with its neighbor, we shall have formed a golden band around the globe just fifty-two feet six inches wide; and if we will suppose that the thickness of this band is the thickness of a million of coins. Such a chain, if laid in a straight line, would reach a tractee over 18,328,445 miles, the weight of which, if estimated at one-quarter ounce each sovereign, would be 6,975,447 tons, and would require for their transport to cost more than 3,235 ships, each with full cargo 5,000 tons. Even then there would be a residue of 447 tons representing 64,061,290 sovereigns."

"For a measure of height let us take a much smaller unit as our measuring rod. The thin sheets of paper on which these lines are printed, if laid out flat and firmly pressed together as in a wand and book, would represent a measure of height 1,355½ of an inch in thickness. Let us see, now, how high a dense pile formed by a billion of these thin paper leaves would reach. We must, in imagination, pile them vertically upward, by degrees reaching to the height of our tallest spire; and, passing the top of the pile, we shall find it growing like the Himalayas, and the highest peaks of the Himalayas, and shooting up from thence through the fleecy clouds, pass beyond the confines of our attenuated atmosphere, and end up into the blue ether with which the universe is filled, standing proudly up far beyond the reach of all terrestrial things; still pile upon your thousands and millions of thin leaves, for we are only beginning to rear the mighty mass. Add millions on millions of sheets, and thousands of miles on these, and still the number will lack its due amount. Let us pause to look at the long, stretched-out line of the book before us. See how closely the those thin flakes of paper; how many there are in the width of a span! and then turn our eyes in imagination upward to our mighty column of accumulated sheets. It now contains its appointed number, and our one billion of sheets of the Times newspaper, imposed upon each other, and pressed into a compact mass, has reached an altitude of 47,318 miles."

Subscribe

Now for the JOURNAL, and receive all the numbers containing practical lessons in flourishing. These alone will be worth many times the price of the subscription to any paper or ornamental publication, and especially so to the one who is working to improve without the aid of a teacher.

Back Numbers

of the JOURNAL can be supplied, beginning with No. 6. No prior number can be supplied.



Published Monthly at \$1.00 per Year.

D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor,

20 Broadway, New York.

Single copies of JOURNAL sent on receipt of ten cents. Specimen copies furnished to Agents free.

ADVERTISING RATES:

	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
1 Column.....	\$5.00	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$35.00
2 Columns.....	10.00	30.00	50.00	70.00
3 Columns.....	15.00	45.00	75.00	105.00
4 Columns.....	20.00	60.00	100.00	140.00
5 Columns.....	25.00	75.00	125.00	175.00
6 Columns.....	30.00	90.00	150.00	210.00
7 Columns.....	35.00	105.00	175.00	245.00
8 Columns.....	40.00	120.00	200.00	280.00
9 Columns.....	45.00	135.00	225.00	315.00
10 Columns.....	50.00	150.00	250.00	350.00

Advertisements for one and three months, payable in advance; for six months and one year, payable quarterly in advance. No deviation from the above rates. Reading matter, 20 cents per line.

LITERAL INDENTMENTS.

We hope to make the JOURNAL so interesting and attractive that no penman or teacher who sees it can withhold either its subscription or a good word; but we want them to do more even than that; we desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, as therefore offer the following

PREMIUMS.

To every subscriber, after further notice, we will send a copy of the John D. Williams' masterpiece, "The Marriage Certificate."

To any person sending their own and another name as subscribers, including \$5, we will mail each the JOURNAL one year, and forward by return of mail to the sender, a copy of each of the following publications, each of which are among the best specimens of penmanship ever published, etc.

The Ornamental Picture of Penmanship, 20 pages, in color
The Lady's Penman, 100 pages, 14 cents
The Marriage Certificate, 100 pages, 14 cents
The Penman's Art Journal, 100 pages, 14 cents
The Penman's Art Journal, 100 pages, 14 cents
The Penman's Art Journal, 100 pages, 14 cents

For three names and \$5 we will forward the large "Ornamental Picture, etc." gratis in color, retail for \$5. For six names and \$5 we will forward a copy of Williams & Ketchum's details, retail for \$2.50.

For twelve names and \$10, we will send a copy of Ames' "Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship," price \$5. The same bound in gilt will be sent for eighteen subscribers and \$15, price \$7.50. For twelve names and \$15, we will forward a copy of Williams & Ketchum's "Compendium of Penmanship," retail for \$5.

Communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, should be addressed to the office of publication, 20 Broadway, New York.

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great measure, their own, and give it a long helping hand, while we pledge ourselves to most fully reciprocate by adding to its excellence.

Modesty and Truthfulness in Advertising.

On another page we will find a communication criticising somewhat severely the style adopted by some penmen for advertising.

Undoubtedly some of our patrons will question the propriety and policy of admitting such criticisms to the columns of the JOURNAL, but we believe that a sober second thought will lead all to approve, commend, and, we trust, in some instances, to profit by the counsels reached by our correspondent.

The profession of penmanship, certainly in this country, has never comprehended the esteem and respect of refined and educated persons, to which its real value and importance justly entitles it; this has been chiefly owing to the bad taste or knavish purpose of a few who have persistently announced themselves as champions, kings, bosses, or with some other ridiculous title, offering unrivaled and unheard of facilities, and making promises impossible to be fulfilled. Such persons have usually secured large classes only to betray their early incompetency, and, in many instances, their dishonesty by collecting in advance money for instruction or other service, which they would not even make an effort to give, thereby not only disgracing themselves, but bringing discredit and ill-repute upon the profession generally.

Our such noisy impostor will do much more to injure than any honest and really skillful teachers can do to sustain the dignity and honor of their profession, from the very fact that a fraud, in necessarily occupying constantly a new field of labor, will become extensively known, while the honest teacher, with genuine merit and good repute, receiving his highest remuneration and greatest honor, where his services are well known, has a correspondingly limited acquaintance.

We do not wish to be inferred that we are in any manner opposed to the most energetic and liberal advertising—quite the contrary. A judicious use of printers' ink has made many a princely fortune. Genuine merit cannot be too extensively, if truthfully, advertised, nor will any amount of bragging, false claims, or cheek, confer permanent success upon a fraud. It was the loss of A. T. Stewart that no untruth or misrepresentation regarding the quality or value of any article offered for sale in his houses would be permitted. Any employee proved to be guilty of such was at once dismissed from his service. This becoming known as his established principle, brought a multitude of patrons, and conferred upon him a success without a parallel in the country.

Liberal advertising, but a modest and truthful one.

Photo-Engraving.

The cuts used as illustrations in the JOURNAL are photo-engraved by the "New York Photo-Engraving Company," under the direct superintendence of J. C. Moss, the discoverer of the process, from pen and ink drawings, and, therefore, exact fac-simile representations of the actual penmanship. It is only through the aid of this process that the publication of such an illustrated paper as the JOURNAL is rendered practical.

The perfection reached by the Photo-Engraving Company in the reproduction of drawings upon relief plates is really astonishing, and has already wrought a perfect revolution in the old, slow and expensive process of wood-engraving. Drawings intended for photo-engraving should be

carefully executed, as there can be no quality in the plate not in the drawing. In order to secure the best results, drawings should be made twice the dimensions of the desired cut. The finest quality of jet black India ink should be used. It should be remembered that no light or gray line will photo-engrave. A very large proportion of the specimens forwarded to the JOURNAL, and designed for publication, cannot be engraved from the bad quality of the ink used. We wish all who forward drawings or specimens of flourishing or writing to us for reproduction would bear this fact in mind.

Penmen's Convention.

It is now positively determined that there shall be a convention of penmen and commercial teachers, held at Packard's College Hall on August 6. The committee on preliminaries will immediately announce the same by a circular (a copy of which will be sent in another column), addressed to all persons supposed to be interested, inviting their early answers to several important questions therein proposed, with suggestions bearing upon the convention. We feel that we cannot urge too strongly upon these gentlemen the importance of the great importance not only of at once responding to this circular, but of doing all in their power to secure the most complete and triumphant success of the convention. It will be the first convention ever held so far as we are informed, embracing these professions, and will therefore stand as a precedent to their honor or dishonor. Each member of the fraternity should, therefore, feel that he is, in a measure, responsible for the result, and not only resolve to attend but to contribute, to the best of his ability, for its success. We fully believe that there is not wanting ample intellect and attainments in these professions, if properly interested and brought out, to constitute an assembly which shall do honor alike to the profession of penmanship and practical business education. Who will help to prove that such is the fact?

Interesting to Visitors.

Penmen and admirers of skillful penmanship who visit our office, find great pleasure in examining the many specimens that have been received from the correspondents and contributors to the JOURNAL, which we have recently arranged in a large album, with alphabetical index, convenient for inspection. We shall be pleased to add to these others from penmen who have not yet favored us with a specimen of their skill. At the suggestion of Prof. Peirce of Keokuk, Iowa, we propose to add the photographs of those who have contributed specimens, which would greatly increase the interest and pleasure of those who inspect the work in the album.

We, therefore, request all who have sent, or in the future may send, specimens of their penmanship to the JOURNAL, to also send their photograph, to be placed in connection with such specimens in the album.

Prof. Peirce also suggests as a means for becoming better acquainted, a general exchange of photos between the leading authors and teachers of writing, and starts the ball by sending his to the JOURNAL and publishing his request for an exchange, which, see in our advertising e-Journals.

Lessons in Off-Hand Flourishing.

In the present number of the JOURNAL we begin a course of instruction in flourishing. Each number will contain one or more practical exercises or elements in flourishing, with such instruction for practice as we may be able to give. These lessons will be progressive from the first elements to the flourishing of birds and other complete and attractive designs. If each lesson is properly studied and practiced, according to our instruction, there will be sufficient in the end to enable any one to become quite accomplished in this

popular and fascinating department of ornamental penmanship, and will alone be worth many times the entire price of a year's subscription to the JOURNAL.

How to Prepare India Ink.

Take a sloping tray of stone or porcelain, and grind the ink gradually in distilled or common rain-water until it becomes of the required degree of thickness. The ink must be ground freshly each time it is used. It will not do to dissolve it in water, as it does not become sufficiently pulverized to flow freely, and does not adhere to the paper with sufficient tenacity to resist the erosion of rubber.

Van Sickle's Practical System of Book-keeping.

By J. W. VAN SICKLE, A.M., M.D. PRINCIPAL OF VAN SICKLE'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

This is a compact practical work of over two hundred pages, embracing book-keeping by single and double entry. The author does not profess to offer any new system, but claims to present the science of accounts in more convenient, practical and progressive form, than has been done by other authors, which claims appears to be well founded, certainly as regards most works now in use upon that subject. Teachers of book-keeping and proprietors of business colleges should at least examine a copy of this work.

Obituary.

Through Mr. Jos. M. Vincent we learn of the death of Prof. F. E. Arnold, which occurred at Los Angeles, Cal., on Feb. 1. Prof. Arnold had for some time past been afflicted with consumption, and the information of his death was not altogether unexpected. He was born in Maine, in 1846. While quite young he went to Rockford, Ill., where he remained nine years; he also taught for a while in Iowa. In 1874 he removed to Los Angeles, where he established and conducted, until his death, a business college. He was a skillful penman and a very successful teacher of writing and other commercial branches. He had a large circle of acquaintances in Los Angeles and vicinity, by whom his loss will be sincerely regretted.

Removal.

The well-known publishing house of Putter, Amisworth & Co., publishers of the Payson & Dutton popular system of copy-books, announce in another column their removal from John street to more spacious and commodious quarters at 35 Park Place.

Business College Items.

G. W. Hansley announces the opening of a Business College at Corsicana, Texas, on June 17.

F. K. Simmons succeeds F. E. Arnold as proprietor of the Los Angeles (California) Business College.

James Souder has succeeded W. A. Drew as proprietor of the West Chicago Business College.

Thos. Powers, proprietor of Fort Wayne Business College, has issued his College Yearning sheet, which is a very rare table appearing sheet, and contains many practical hints.

David A. Goun, who has for some time past been teaching writing at Walla Walla, W. T., has recently established the Puget Sound Business College, at Seattle, Washington Territory.

M. B. Worthington, who is one of the most accomplished writers in the United States, in company with Mr. Anderson, formerly from Pittsburgh, Pa., is about to establish a business college in Chicago.

The Indianapolis (Ind.) Daily Journal of May 4, contains a very flattering notice of the Indianapolis Business College, which was conducted by Messrs. C. C. Koenner and J. R. Goodier. The latter is one of the most skillful penmen of the West.

As you give, in Measure so shall you Receive.

While no pains will be spared on our part to render the JOURNAL as interesting and attractive as possible, yet very much must depend upon the liberality of penmen in sustaining it, both by way of inducing subscriptions and contributing interesting and instructive matter for its columns. The more means for supplying good papers that are placed in our hands, the more we can give in return. A penman's paper, to be in the largest degree successful, should reflect through its columns the grand progress of the best thought, and greatest artistic skill of the profession. That is what we desire for the JOURNAL, and therefore ask penmen to make the cause of the JOURNAL, as it is in

The graduating exercises of the New Jersey Business College, Newark, took place on April 26, and consisted of music, orations, recitations, and addresses. The college is conducted by Messrs. Miller & Stockwell. Both are competent and faithful teachers, and fully merit the liberal patronage which they are enjoying.

The Bryant & Stratton Business College of Brooklyn, N. Y., under the proprietorship and able management of C. Chapman, has, during the past year, enjoyed more than its usual degree of prosperity. During a recent visit to the college we had the pleasure of examining the course of instruction and witnessing the very satisfactory results as manifested in the marked improvement of the students as they progressed through the several stages of the course. The aggregate improvement in the writing as exhibited in the bookkeeping was excellent. Prof. C. is among our most earnest, faithful and exacting teachers, one not to be satisfied with ordinary results.

Exchange Items

The Engravers' Proof Sheet, published monthly by Wm. A. Emerson, East Douglass, Mass., is got up in excellent style.

Brown's Phonographic Monthly, published by D. L. Scott-Brown, 737 Broadway, comes to hand full of interesting matter pertaining to its specialty.

The Penman's Literary and Art Journal, published by J. D. B. Sawyer, Ottawa, Canada, is an interesting and well edited eight-page paper, devoted principally to writing and commercial education.

The New York Era, published weekly for \$1.00 per copy, by the "Era Newspaper Co.," 1 Chambers street, New York, is a large eight-page paper, ably edited, and well filled with choice matter of local and general interest.

The Masonic Institute Journal, published by Oscar Lightner, Alvarado, Texas, is an interesting eight-page journal, published monthly for 50 cents per copy. It is highly creditable to the institution which it represents, and deserves a wide circulation.

The New York Daily Star, under its new management, is fast winning favor and patronage. With its new heading and enlarged form, it is one of the most attractive of our metropolitan dailies. It contains all the news, served up in good style, for only two cents.

The Home Guest for June, published by J. Latham & Co., Boston, is received. It is edited with ability and good taste, and filled with matters of general interest. Its department devoted especially to matters relating to penmen and penmanship is ably edited by Prof. G. A. Gaskell, formerly editor of the *Gazette*, and is unusually interesting and attractive, having a beautiful specimen of flourishing by W. E. Dennis, (now teaching writing at Wick's Business College, Brooklyn, N. Y.), and an interesting biographical sketch, accompanied with a portrait of Professor Gaskell.

Answers to

H. W. New York.—Your writing is first-class; practical business writing we have no fault to find with it. By following the ruled lines little more closely, you would add to its regular appearance.

J. D. S., Manheim, Pa.—You write an easy and graceful hand; it lacks precision and has too many superfluities. Your letters vary greatly in size and slope; the capitals are too large. A little attention to these points will give you an excellent handwriting.

H. J. C., Chelsea, N. Y.—For a boy of sixteen, who has had no instruction, your writing does you great credit; it is easy and graceful. Your weak point is lack of uniformity in slope and slanted strokes; you should also have greater care to keep your writing upon the line.

O. M. W., Randall, Iowa.—You have a very free, easy movement, and the basis of a good hand-writing. For one to study the analysis of some standard system of writing, and give special attention to the proper relative heights of the capitals, loops and one-space letters, also to the other proportions of your writing.

C. O. S., Ransom, Pa.—Ques. 1. What system of penmanship do you consider the best? 2. Would it not be of considerable value to penmen were they able to write and teach it? 3. Who is the chief teacher of penmanship in the field at present, and what his age? 4. Will you not publish the proceedings of the coming convention in convenient form and sell it to the many readers of the *Journal*?

B. F. Robinson, Clerksburg, W. Va., seventeen years old, sends a skillfully-executed specimen of flourishing. He is evidently a genius with the pen.

W. N. Yerxa, London (Ontario) Business College, sends a beautifully-written letter. For grace and freedom of movement, as well as general good taste, it is rarely excelled.

L. W. Moon, Revelsboro, O., incloses in a very tastefully-written letter, some very fine specimens of card writing. He would like to exchange specimens with other penmen.

H. W. Cook, Higginson, Conn., sends a specimen sheet, giving a variety of styles of writing and lettering which are very creditable; also several original and unique designs for flourished and lettered cards.

D. K. Lillibridge, Davenport (Iowa) Business College, sends a most elegant letter, inclosing a perfect gem of flourishing. Prof. L. is a graduate of Packard's Business College, was a pupil of John D. Williams and enjoys the reputation of being one of the most skillful and successful teachers in the West.

Jackson Cagle, penman at Moore's Business College, Atlanta, Georgia, forwards several specimens of writing and a specimen of off-hand flourishing that are indeed masterly for real ease and a graceful combination of all the elements of good writing and flourishing, they are seldom equalled. We shall probably present some of them in the next number of the *JOURNAL*.

To dead-head specimen hunters who would commend the following

ACROSTIC.
Whether thou art, wherever thou mayest be,
I never beautiful or plain to see,
I did rank low high, or yet how low degree,
East, west, north, south, it matters not to me—
I wish with my words, if I ever you met,
And that you ask no samples without fee.
And know naught but each order I can see.

Are there not many penmen who, having been harassed by numerous postal card requests for specimens of their writing, can endorse the above sentiment? For my own part, the larger share of mail I have received for years has been from this class of mendicants, and I was a long time learning how to teach them that the pleasures of anticipation were a great deal more certain than those of realization—several of them who should have sent checks for samples having "passed in their checks" in the natural way before such realization. But for some time past I had been comparatively free from such annoyances, until, in an unguarded hour, I advertised in *THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL*, and since that time new swarms have made their appearance, and I have no peace. Is there naught will destroy this pest?

PENSTOP.



The Specimen of Flourishing

upon this page is from the pen of H. C. Clark, who has recently become proprietor of the Forrest City (formerly Allen's) Business College, Rockford, Ill. Prof. Clark is an accomplished penman, and a skillful and successful teacher, well deserving of success.

A Teachers' Convention.

We notice that *THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL* of the current month, a movement for a National Convention of teachers of penmanship, book-keeping, and the other specialties which compose the curriculum of business colleges. It is a movement in the right direction, and there ought to be no reason why it may not prove to be eminently successful. The exposition must be held in the convention in this city during August in the hall of Packard's Business College. No matter time or place could be selected, and now let the persons interested go ahead with spirit and understanding; and, after warning themselves and their co-laborers into an appropriate glow, so as to make a large attendance certain, let them see to it that the "game is worth the powder." Whoever has in charge the programme of exercises should make sure of something worthy of the occasion. The expositions must be held in the front, and if any have the gift of tongue let them be called upon to proclaim themselves and their work. Business colleges are not slow in putting forth their claims to popular favor. Let the teachers make such a showing of the good things they possess as shall fully substantiate these claims.—N. Y. School Journal.

any one who cannot attend? Ans. 1. So far as our observation goes, we believe that the standard system of Penmanship, published by A. J. Graham, Bible House, New York, is the most complete and practical. Ans. 2. It would be a valuable accomplishment, not alone to penmen, but to all classes, and should be taught by every teacher and in every school in the land. Long hand is the "stage coach" in writing, short hand, the telegraph and rail car. Ans. 3. We don't know. I asked teacher on my list is Prof. B. Musser, Smithville, Ohio, aged 63 years. Ans. 4. The *JOURNAL* will contain the full report of the proceedings of the convention as is intended, and I presume that the convention will take measures to have the proceedings published in a pamphlet form for circulation among the fraternity and others who may desire it.

THE CALLED

L. Malabar, Rochester, N. Y., sends specimens of card writing executed in his usual excellent style.

J. M. Willey, Painesville, O., sends a beautiful letter and a very graceful and decorative specimen of flourishing.

C. W. Ingall, Fort Wayne, Ind., writes a very handsome letter in which he incloses several specimen sheets, which are very creditable.

J. W. Pearson, E. Merca, O., sends some excellent specimens of writing. His movement is very graceful and his writing correct and in good taste.

J. N. C., Harrington, Rochester, N. Y., is an accomplished writer, his elegant letter and card specimens received bear the most conclusive evidence.

PERSONALS.

J. F. Duly is teaching classes at Terra Haute, Ind.

W. W. Drew is teaching writing at San Juan, California.

Jos. M. Vincent is teaching at Los Angeles (Cal.) Business College.

L. B. Lawson is teaching large classes at San Jose, Cal. He is a good writer and deserves success.

We had the pleasure, a few days since of a call from W. H. Lathrop, of Boston. He is a skillful penman and an agreeable gentleman.

Miss L. L. West, teacher of English branches in Barlow Business College, Dubuque, Iowa, is a fine writer and favors the "Penmen's Convention."

S. L. Davidson, a pupil of A. B. Capp, at Held's Business College, San Francisco, Cal., sends a letter, the style of which does credit alike to pupil and teacher.

J. E. Granger, formerly teacher of writing in the Quinville (Ohio) Public Schools, is stenographer in the office of the Texas & Pacific R. Co., 50 Exchange Place, N. Y.

P. H. Carney is having good success teaching writing at Lawrence, Mass. He forwards the names of twenty members of his last class as well as to the *JOURNAL*. This is strong evidence of a good teacher and valuable pupils.

A. S. Gumbart, who for some years was a skillful assistant in an office, and subsequently became quite celebrated as an artist penman and engraver in this city and Brooklyn, has entered the military, and commences his pastoral duties with the Park Baptist Church, Port Richmond, Staten Island. We wish him the most abundant success in his new calling.

Penmen's Convention.

The following circular has been prepared by the committee on Penmen's Convention, and is to be mailed, as far as it is possible to procure the names and addresses, to every teacher and author of writing or commercial branches in the United States or Canada, and it is to be hoped that all will respond promptly and fully to all the propositions therein contained. Any one entitled to so who does not receive the circular, is hereby requested to either address the committee for the same, or forward their answers as per circular printed below:

New York, June 1, 1878.

DEAR SIR:—By the almost unanimous vote expressed in answer to suggestions in THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, it has been decided to hold a convention of teachers of writing and other commercial branches in the Hall of Fackner's Business College in this city, beginning August 6; and the undersigned have been in like manner designated as a Committee of Arrangements.

The Committee suggest that the convention sit not longer than four days, and desire to know as far as possible who will attend, and what active part in the proceedings members will take. You are, therefore, respectfully requested to favor the committee with reply with answers to the following questions:

1. Will you attend the convention?
2. In what branches is it your province to give instruction.
3. Are you willing to address the convention either orally or in writing touching one of the following points?

1. The general subject of practical education.
2. Your recognized specialty.
3. Any branch coming within your province, and will you indicate to the committee your preference?

4. Whether able or not to attend, will you favor the committee with suggestions regarding either the preliminary arrangements or the proceedings of the Convention?

The committee desire that these questions shall be answered fully and as promptly as possible. They also suggest that teachers bring or send for exhibition any work of students indicating remarkable improvement or skill in any department of commercial writing, and present an explanation of the means by which such results have been attained. It would be of interest and advantage to every member of the convention to see the work and learn the methods of others; teachers and authors are therefore invited to bring or send to the convention specimens of their own penmanship, copies of printed works, manuscripts, models, charts, or other teaching apparatus, new or old.

The information received in response to this circular will guide the committee in the preparation of an outline of programme of subjects and speakers, which will be sent to you at an early day.

It is the wish of the committee to extend this invitation to all teachers and authors of commercial branches throughout the United States and Canada. You would confer a great favor upon the committee by sending the names of all entitled to an invitation.

Hotel and boarding accommodations may be had at very reasonable rates, and are secured at many good hotels and boarding-houses between the European and the ordinary plan of living. A good room in an excellent neighborhood can be procured at three to four dollars per week, and a room, with board, at six dollars and upwards. Should your desire assistance in procuring quarters, the committee will cheerfully aid you.

There has been no time in the history of modern penmanship and of commercial schools when there was a finer opportunity or a more pressing need of discussion of methods than at present. The public interest in our penmanship is great, let us render ourselves worthy the confidence placed in us, by making every effort to promote the welfare

of those to whom and for whom we are responsible. Address

WM. ALLEN MILLER,
Chairman of Committee,
Fackner's Business College, New York.
WM. ALLEN MILLER,
D. T. AMES, New York,
C. CLARSON, Brooklyn,
H. C. WAGNER, Brooklyn, E. D.,
C. E. CADDY, New York,
Committee.

The following letter came to hand too late for insertion in our May issue:

N. J. BUSINESS COLLEGE,
NEWARK, N. J., May 29, 1878.

Friend Allen:—Please place on your record as heartily favoring a convention, if no further argument is necessary to prove its expediency or utility, as your numerous correspondents have already pronounced the matter to an evident conclusion.

We prefer New York as the place for holding the Convention.

Yours truly,
MILLER & STOCKWELL.

"Blind" Letters at the New York Post Office.

The average of misdirected letters sent to this department is over five hundred a day; the day I was there last it ran up to about 1,000. The most difficult of these go to Mr. Stone, who is called "the blind man," perhaps because he can decipher an inscription that is utterly illegible to any other man in America. His most difficult cases are the foreign letters. Here is a letter directed to "Sandnik," which he makes out to be Sandy Hook. Sometimes the arrangement of the name and address is curious.

For Mr. Thomas Smith, Bridgeport, Conn., America. But when a man says "Hoio," how is anybody but a blind man to know that he means Ohio? The other reads, "Bel Fort Rue Agua." Now the blind man knows that "Fue de Agua" is Spanish for Water street, and that there is a Water street in New Bedford, Massachusetts. "Lysam, Warren Co.," he translates into Luzerne, Warren Co., and Concom County, Pa.; "Is" is made into Cameron County, Pennsylvania. He would guess that "Overn C. D. Leary," in one line, means that it is to go to Auburn, in search of C. D. L. The letter is directed to "Kinastanz Brumer, S. I., Amerka. Mr. Stone recalls the fact that Constance's story is at Stigson, Staten Island, and the letter is sent there. He reads "Ied into Iowa, and 'the Pella in Yomah," he makes to go to Pella, in the same State. Nor does Ohio get off with one miss. Here is one letter that wants to go to "Staldt Hio Zimonsont, Strasse 15"—that is, to the State of Ohio, near the street 15, to that is not all. This letter is sent to reach the same city, but it has a bad spell of another kind, for its direction runs "Seitznatty." And then "Pizzo Bora, Messessip," is sent to Vicksburg. Michigan is spelled "muting." "Glas works Berkshire," is sent to Pittsfield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, where there is a glass factory. But the hardest one I saw was addressed to "John Hermann Schirmen," in one line, with the wonderful word, "Stogekannulo" for the rest. Mr. Stone cut the word in twain, and read it "Stogekannulo County," while he translated the whole into "John Hermann, Sherman P. O., Chattanooga county, N. Y."

But there are some which even a blind man cannot make out. One letter in rather a good handwriting, is very vaguely addressed to "Mackay, Eng. Amerka."

Another reads:
"Too much of this."
"From your affectionate son,"
"A very sincere friend."

In this case the close of the letter had been copied exactly by some one who did not understand the language. Instead of too much of this, there is really too little. But here is a case where the top of the letter has been imperfectly copied in the same

fashion. It reads: "Tuesday Evening, Nord America."

If Tuesday Evening should see this article he will know that his letter has gone back again to Europe.—*Scraper's Magazine.*

The Responsive Chord.

A WELL-REMEMBERED INCIDENT OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

Rev. J. William Jones, in an address before the National Sunday School Convention, Atlanta, Ga., related the following incident: In the early spring of 1863, when the Confederate and federal armies were confronting each other on the opposite banks of Stafford and Spotsylvania, two bands chanced one evening at the same hour to begin to discourse sweet music on either bank of the river. A large crowd of the soldiers of both armies gathered to listen to the music, the friendly pickets not interfering, and soon the two bands began to answer each other. The first band on the northern bank would play "Star Spangled Banner," or "Hail Columbia," or some other national air, and at its conclusion the 'boys in blue' would cheer most lustily. Then the band on the southern bank would respond with "Dixie," "Bonnie Blue Flag," or some other Southern melody, and the 'boys in gray' would attest their approbation with the old Confederate yell. But presently one of the hands struck up, in sweet and plaintive notes which were wafted across the beautiful Rappahannock, and were caught up at once by the other band, and swelled into a grand air which touched every heart. "Home, Sweet Home!" At the conclusion of this piece there went up a simultaneous shout from both sides of the river—cheer followed cheer, and those hills, which had so recently resounded with hostile guns, echoed and re-echoed the sweet melody and had become struck responsive to the hearts of enemies—enemies then—could beat in unison;—and, on both sides of the river, "Something done the soldier's cheek washed of the stains of powder."

—*Philadelphia Times.*

Years ago Senator Morton sent to his children a New Year's letter, which said among other things: "You can never know the depths of a mother's love—how constantly you are in her thoughts, her anxiety about you from day to day, and what sacrifices she would make for you. We have been talking about you, and wondering what you are doing, and hoping you will make great progress in your studies during the year you have just begun in. One year is a great portion of one's lifetime. Much may be done in one year in getting an education and fitting yourself for the duties of life. Lost time can never be recalled, and cannot be made up. Each year should show a great deal learned and great improvement in the manners and character of my dear children. My great anxiety and desire are about my little boys. I am constantly wondering what they will be when they grow up to be men. Will they be learned, intelligent, good, prosperous, and an honor to their parents and country. Such is my only prayer. We hope you think as we do, and that you will be your dear absent brother, who is so far away on a lonely island in the Northern Sea. You must constantly remember him in your prayers, that he may be preserved in health, and prosperous and be safely returned to us during the year."

Ames's Compendium of Practical and Ornamental Penmanship.

We have compiled below a few of the multitude of flattering notices and commendations bestowed by the press and professional penmen upon this work. Few works have been equally fortunate either in winning favor or finding patrons. Nearly one-half of a large edition is already sold, and but little more than ninety days have elapsed since its publication. In justice to it, to our knowledge, received an adverse criticism. We feel fully warranted in saying that no other work upon penmanship ever published so fully met the desire of the professional and artist penman. It not only furnishes him a greater number of and variety of alphabets and practical examples for flourishing, but

many complicated designs for engrossing and other purposes of disphased penmanship:

I consider your COMPENDIUM a valuable contribution to the list of penmanship publications; one which justly exhibits not only the author's talent, but the prevailing taste and genius of our times.—*Prof. J. C. Spryer, Washington.*

Its special advantages over other publications of writing in the process through which you exhibit the merit instead of the quantity of work. It covers great care in preparation and thorough knowledge of the art you occupy.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

You have certainly taken a long step in advance of other authors. You have not only furnished alphabets and material for the use of penmen and artists, but you have also covered the entire field of the most beautiful and artistic designs for resolutions, memoranda, and other documents, which have long been needed. No penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*Prof. C. E. Caddy, New York.*

It is a work of great practical merit, particularly adapted to the use of the penman and artist. The field of pen art more fully than any other work I have ever examined.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

It is a book of great value to penmen, and is unequalled in its exhibition of artistic design.—*Prof. C. A. Waterhouse, New York.*

It is certainly the best of all books upon the art of penmanship.—*Prof. G. O. Stoddard, Newark, N. J.*

It is remarkable for its scope, variety and originality.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, Massachusetts.*

I think it is superior to any work of the kind yet published. It is a work of great practical merit, and no penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

It is grand, magnificent.—*Prof. A. S. Bransford, Birmingham.*

THE COMPENDIUM is a beautiful thing.—*Prof. D. L. Moseley, Quincy, Ill.*

It is certainly the best of all books upon the art of penmanship.—*Prof. G. O. Stoddard, Newark, N. J.*

I expected to see a very valuable work. It greatly exceeds my highest expectations.—*Prof. T. R. South, San Francisco, Cal.*

I cannot express my opinion. I can only say it is a work of great practical merit, and no penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*Prof. L. A. Ayer, Ind. Wisp, Minn.*

It is a work of great practical merit, and no penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*Prof. L. A. Ayer, Ind. Wisp, Minn.*

I find it even more than I anticipated, which was something like a great deal.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

It contains an almost endless variety of designs adapted to the practical department of ornamental penmanship.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

We have no hesitation in pronouncing it to be the most useful and complete of all penmanship books. No penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*The Penman's Help.*

The art of penmanship is triumphant in Mr. Ames's book.—*New York Evening Post.*

It is a work of great practical merit, and no penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, New York.*

It gives us all the old chirographic effects and new penmanship, wherever wishes to learn the mystery of fine and neat lines, flourishes and all wonderful pen flourishes will find in much as is likely to master.—*New York Tribune.*

Penmen and artists have seen specimens of almost every kind of work that can be done with the pen. Considerable artistic power and remarkable skill is shown in all the work.—*Publishers' Weekly.*

It is one of the most elaborate and artistic works of the kind ever published.—*The Manufacturer and Builder.*

We have never seen a work containing so many alphabets and designs of exquisite beauty. The volume is a work of great practical merit, and no penman or artist can afford to be without it.—*The Penman's Help.*

It is one of the best publications of this class which have ever come under our notice.—*The Manufacturer and Builder.*

For terms, see Penman's supply, and penman lists in other columns.

Is teacher of penmanship at the Queen City Commercial College, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The specimens which we have received from you are of great value, and indicate that he is a master of the art.

Is one of the proprietors of the long famous "Duff's Commercial College," Pittsburgh, Pa. He is an accomplished writer, and pen artist.

Is assistant teacher of writing in Sonle's Commercial College, New Orleans, La., and is a very skillful penman.

Is an accomplished writer, and is having marked success teaching classes at Oakdale, Neb.



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B. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor.
B. F. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

Cards of Printer and Business Colleges, occupying three lines of space, will be inserted in this column for \$2.50 per year.

G. H. SHATTUCK,
General Agent Superior Copy Books,
IVISON, BLAKEMAN, TAYLOR & CO., New York,
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205 Broadway, New York.

WRIGHT'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,
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D. T. AMES,
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205 Broadway, New York.

POTTER, AINSWORTH & CO.,
PUBLISHERS OF D. & S. STANDARD COPY-BOOKS
30 Park Place, New York.

D. APPLETON & CO.,
Publishers,
415 and 431 Broadway, New York.

Practical Hints on Teaching Penmanship.

BY PROF. JAMES T. KNAUSS, PRINCIPAL OF
EASTON, PA., BUSINESS COLLEGE, DEFERRE THE
NORTHINGTON CO. TEACHER'S INSTITUTE,
DEC. 27, 1877.

My observation during a period of more than eighteen years, both as student and teacher of penmanship, convinces me that in no other common branch, except perhaps in drawing, are teachers generally so poorly qualified to teach as in writing. For this reason, I have frequently, and with the warmest of approval, probably, superintendents and school officers are partly at fault, by not requiring any particular standard of skill or qualification in writing on the part of the candidates for teaching. If the law required all applicants for a certificate to be qualified to teach penmanship from the blackboard systematically and scientifically, it would not be long before they would qualify themselves in this study, both by theory and practice, and I feel assured that no teacher, who desires to meet the wants of his pupils in the schoolroom, would complain if examined upon this line of him. It may be argued by some teachers that we have now the very best lithographed copy books, which is, or ought to be sufficient. It is true there are a number of excellent systems of penmanship in general use, but a system of penmanship is not frequently considered nearly as a series of copy books, and the fact that copy books are text books, and should be thoroughly understood, is seldom recognized.

Our youth, by the study of these books, become good penmen? Have educators realized what they expected from their use? Do pupils learn from them the correct method of holding the pen, and proper position of the hand and arm? Do they learn from them the proper position at the desk? Can they learn these from the books as they are read in most of our schools? Has any other than the finger movement ever resulted from their use? The finger movement alone, which is almost universally the movement practiced in writing copy books, is not used or taught by any noted teacher of penmanship except for small children to learn the formation of letters in the country. Is it then an advantage for the youth of our schools in learning to write to use a movement exclusively which they will not practice when they enter upon the duties of an active life?

Movement is the foundation of all good penmanship. Printed copy books are good in their places as helps, to a teacher and should never be looked upon in any other light. No teacher, I am sure, would expect his pupils to become grammarians from merely studying a text book or copying finished sentences, nor mathematicians by copying wrought problems; and no teacher should allow a text book or a copy book to supersede him in his school. His personal supervision and interest are elements of success in any branch, and penmanship is not an exception to this rule. I contend that an easy practical handwriting, suitable for any calling in life is not to be learned by patterning after printed copies of any series of copy books alone; but it is learned either by the skillful advice and instruction of a teacher who understands the art, with a thorough course of practice on movement exercises, or through long experience, either in the counting room or in some office. The style of writing acquired through the use of copy books in our schools is nearly always stiff, cramped and impossible, as any good teacher of the art can tell you. The teacher who simply gives his pupils a printed copy, or contend that he can teach them an elegant cursive, and let them pattern after it, will find after ten or twenty minutes a day at random—sitting in any position they choose and writing whatever movement they can, will never turn out any practical business letters. While it is indeed true that imitation and practice are the chief means by which penmanship is acquired, it is all important for the learner to know how to imitate and how to practice. I feel assured that ten minutes' practice on the true philosophy of motion is of more benefit than ten weeks' constant practice on finger movement.

It is of course not to be expected that the common schools will furnish any finished penman—far from it; for I am well aware that with the multiplicity of branches taught, teachers are unable to do this, even if they were competent; but they ought to do, what teaching they do right, and teach each pupil what they charge at least an easy, plain hand, or to let the pupils learn a good penmanship, so that all may become good penmen who are willing to give the necessary practice to it. * * * The greatest difficulty, perhaps, in the way of advancement in many of our public schools, is the indifference of many teachers who do not seem to regard penmanship with the importance it deserves. I have heard some go so far as to say that because Homer Greeley and a few others wrote most wretchedly, bad penmanship should be a mark of greatness. As well might we say that because Edgar A. Poe was an opium eater or fire, Grant an inveterate smoker, that intemperance and smoking are marks of greatness. Many have an idea that good penmanship is an endowment, that a person must be a natural writer or it is useless to attempt to acquire the art. Could we meet any such with propriety, that a person attempting to read or to spell a word? Such ideas are too absurd to have weight with any persons of experience. Some, of course, have more aptness and taste than others, but the principle of penmanship are few and simple, the movement exercises are many, and any person of ordinary intelligence and five grains of push to a square inch of mind

can power can master them in a short time. A teacher's accomplishments are precisely what he makes them; his success depends largely upon his tact and industry; what too many lack is tenacity of purpose. They seem to think that they must be able to master every branch at a jump or without much labor, or they do not possess the natural ability to acquire it. Perseverance and stick-to-it-iveness are the foundation rocks which sustain all well-directed efforts in any calling, while the drifting sands of indecision lead many a teacher down to failure.

Another very evident difficulty in properly teaching writing in our public schools is the selection of poor material. I have seen all sorts of many different kinds of pens used as there were pupils in the school—course, fine, smooth, scratchy, stumpy, rusty—all kinds—teacher and pupils alike indifferent as to their quality. A bad pen in a large unwieldy holder, is a sufficient cause of failure in trying to learn to write with it, so that nothing of the poor ink that is commonly used. Another fault is that where copy books are used pupils are often allowed to write in too high numbers. Instead of requiring them to thoroughly master the principles and let the pen be used in low numbers they are allowed to write the higher positions. This is not bad practice in any school. The teacher who desires to succeed well in teaching this art, must classify his pupils. There should be no more than two classes in any public school, and each member of the same class should be required to write the same copy at the same time; not allow one to write a page here and another there, which is too frequently the case. If a pupil is away from any writing lesson he should communicate with the class on his return and make up the lesson lost some other time at the pleasure of the teacher.

Another great drawback is, that some pupils get in the habit of writing too fast, and this is one of the very worst habits that a teacher has to encounter; and I might say right here that hardly one in a dozen has the correct method of holding the pen. The best plan that I know to teach writing from copy books is, first, to select good material, then to show the proper position of the desk and correct manner of holding the pen; then let the class practice easy movement exercises on blank paper for five or ten minutes; after this let the teacher write the letter or copy on the board, and require some member of the class to do so, while the others have been writing. After a few lines have been written have the pupils exchange, change books and criticize each others' efforts—requiring all criticisms to be in strict accordance with the analysis previously given. This will form in the mind of the critic his own work. Let the rule be to do well whatever is done, how little that may be. Master one feature at a time, and whether the lesson be spacing, shading, or slant, let the undivided attention of the class be directed to that one point. If the teacher keeps up an interest in his classes, gets some enthusiasm in his remarks, and uses the method I have just outlined, the assertion that his pupils will show more improvement in two weeks than in two months by the ordinary way. I know from experience that this plan can be successfully carried out in any district school—the time allotted to writing may necessarily be short, but perhaps not more than twenty minutes; but

if the teacher is alive to the importance of the subject, the time spent in writing will be regarded by the pupils as the most pleasant part of the day, and the teacher will be amply rewarded by the rapid advancement of his pupils.—*National Educator.*

Commercial Schools.

GROWTH AND IMPORTANCE.
The rapid increase of business schools and colleges since 1870, both in number and importance, shows that they admirably meet a want in education which is in no other way so suitably supplied.

There were in 1870 only twenty-six business colleges in the United States, with 174 instructors and 5,825 students. There are today more than 121 business colleges and commercial schools, with at least 600 teachers and 25,000 students.

In the West, the business colleges are largely attended, and rapidly growing in favor, as a means of special education. Illinois has the largest number of these schools of any State, or its business colleges; Ohio has 12, and Michigan 8.

The business college in San Francisco is attended by middle-aged people of both sexes, as well as by the young, and seems to have caught, in this respect, the true democratic spirit of special education. The business colleges in some other cities are becoming more and more schools for the people as well as for the young.

A knowledge of the common English branches, or reading, writing and arithmetic, is the only literary preparation necessary to enter the common school. The sessions for instruction in the larger schools are held in the morning and evening, on every business day throughout the year. A student may enter upon his studies at any time, and may take a complete course of study, and graduate or only receive instruction in special branches at times that do not interfere with regular business occupations.

The studies that a student may pursue, or from which he may select for special instruction, are, in the best organized schools, penmanship, book-keeping, including mercantile correspondence, bills, invoices, checks, notes, drafts, etc.; banking and commercial accounts; arithmetic and algebra; navigation, engineering, surveying; architectural and mechanical drawing; English grammar, and the modern languages.

The cost of tuition varies from \$10 to \$200 a year; the highest figure being for the most expensive studies in the course.

Some of these schools have business departments, in which the students have actual business training, having regularly organized banks, with stockholders, directors, etc., in which deposits are made, checks paid, notes and drafts discounted, exchange bought and sold, the general business of the bank is carried on by the students, under proper supervision.

The schools meet the wants of a large number of people whose early education has been limited, but who have the purpose and time for self-education in hours not required for daily work. Any lack in business training, in penmanship, arithmetic, book-keeping, may thus be supplied.

We would recommend to the young men whose advantages for study have been insufficient for the highest business success, to take such studies as they most need, in the evening sessions of some business college or commercial school.—*Youth's Companion.*

A GAME OF LIFE.

BY JOHN C. KAX.

There's a game much in fashion, I think 't 's called
 Though I never have played it for pleasure or leisure,
 Which, when the cards are dealt, is a game of chance.
 The players appear to have changed their positions,
 And now they're playing a game of chance.
 "I think I may venture to go alone!"

While waiting the game, 'tis a whim of the birds,
 And the cards are dealt, and the game is begun;
 And to win the game, 'tis a game of chance,
 Which, when the cards are dealt, is a game of chance.
 Where, whether the prize be a ribbon or throne—
 The winner is he who "goes alone!"

When great odds proclaimed that the world,
 In a hand, was lost, and the game was begun;
 And got a counter for all of his pawns,
 And the cards were dealt, and the game was begun.
 "I move for all that," said the answering king,
 "For I can win the game, 't 's a game of chance!"

When Kipler, with intellect piercing steel,
 Discovers the law of each pawn and its fate;
 And he knows who ought to have ruled the game,
 Divided his learning and luckless his fate;
 "I can win," he replied—"I'll the truth you shall
 For he told in his heart he could 'go alone!'"

Also for players who shy depend,
 In the struggle of life, upon kindred and friends,
 But who are the value of his own life know;
 They can never atone for injurious ease;
 No comfort his wealth can give him with a groan,
 That his crutches have left him to "go alone!"

There is something, no doubt, in the hand you may
 Hold, health, family, culture, wit, beauty and gold,
 But it is not the hand that is the game of chance,
 As each in his life a most excellent card;
 He can win the game, 't 's a game of chance, for you,
 Unless you have the courage to "go alone!"

But in business, whatever the game,
 It is not the hand that is the game of chance,
 In the struggle for power or scramble for profit,
 But the hand that is the game of chance;
 For whether the prize be a ribbon or throne,
 The victor is he who can "go alone!"

How Steel Pens are Made.

A few weeks since one of our correspondents requested that we should inform the readers of the JOURNAL regarding the process of manufacturing steel pens. Deeming this subject of considerable interest and importance, one, to answer which in our satisfactory manner, required personal observation and information which we at that time had not, and, and desiring our answer to be both full and reliable, we recently visited the extensive steel pen works of the Esterbrook Steel Pen Co., at Camden, N. J., which is a suburb of Philadelphia. Arriving at the works and announcing ourselves as an editor in pursuit of information in regard to pen-making, we were most cordially received, and conducted by the superintendent through the several departments, and the object and particular process of each carefully explained. We were first shown the steel from which the pens are made; it is of the finest quality, and is imported from Sheffield, England, in sheets five feet long, one and one-half feet wide, and one sixteenth of an inch thick. These sheets are first cut into strips eighteen inches long by three and one-half to three inches wide, and they are then packed into iron pots, sealed with clay, and placed in a closed furnace called the muffle, and heated sufficiently to remove all temper from the steel, this softening it sufficiently to admit of its being rolled to the required thickness for the particular pen into which it is to be made. This is done by repeatedly passing each between powerful rollers worked by steam; they become so the required thickness these strips are from three to four feet long by two to three inches wide; they are then taken to the

CUTTING ROOM

where they are passed rapidly through machines, operated by girls, with such rapidity as to cut from two hundred to two hundred and fifty pen blanks per minute; in this room every machine capable of cutting an aggregate of 1,500,000 pens can work during day of ten hours; allowing 80 working days per year, this would give annually 450,000,000 pens, about ten for each man, woman and child in the United States.

FINISHING ROOM

The pens are next prepared and size fitted. The picking is done by a great variety of configurations in the stamps, and forms the varied-shaped aperture to be seen at the back of the pen. The slitting of the sides or edges gives flexibility. Everything here, as in every other place, is turned out with mathematical accuracy and precision. In this department there are twenty-nine machines, and a woman is

working at each. A good hand will pass one thousand gross per week through her hands. The

MARKING ROOM

we next pass into, and here we must state that before the pens go through this department, they have to go back to the muffle again to be annealed. They are then put into iron boxes which, with the inked pens, are inserted in the furnace before named, and when heated sufficiently, are taken out and allowed to cool gradually.

The name of this room itself sufficiently indicates the nature of the operation performed in this department, viz: the name of the makers, the number by which the pen is known and the name of the pen, such as "The Falcon," "School Pen," "True Point," "Easy Writer," etc., is stamped upon them.

There are fifteen of these marking presses to be seen here. These machines are worked by foot, while the pens are being cut under the marker by hand. It will be seen from the name of one of the brands just given, that they are the makers of the celebrated "Falcon Pen," 048. The sale of this pen alone last year was about two hundred thousand gross.

We were next shown into the

BAINING DEPARTMENT.

Raising is a technical term which means bowing; hitherto the pens have been flat. Now they are raised or bent into shape by means of presses, to which levers are attached, and which are brought down upon the pens singly. Only one pen is manipulated at a time. This is the case in each department and at every operation. Here we counted twenty-five of these presses. Again the pens have to be passed to the muffle, which may now be called the tempering department, where they are put into sheet-iron barrels, and under each barrel is a slow fire. They are then made to revolve by turning a handle, while at the open end of each barrel a workman stands with a spoon about four feet long, which he inserts from time to time, taking out a few of the pens to see that the process is going on satisfactorily, and to enable him to take them out at the right moment.

Now we come to the

SCURRING SHOP,

where the pens are put into galvanized iron barrels with saw-dust, etc., and made to revolve until they become bright. Then we go to the

GRINDING

branch of this establishment. Here the pens are first ground straight or lengthwise, and also across. The object of the first grind is merely to assist the firm of the ink, and of the second to retard or hold it back; this an equilibrium is obtained, and the ink flows just as the writer uses the pen. This grinding is operated on emery wheels, of which there are fifty in this department. Our conductor now introduces us to the

SLITTING WORKSHOP,

where there are twenty-five machines, which perform the operation of making the slit at the point of the pen. When we consider that the pens come almost to a point at the end, and that there is no point whatever for the slightest deviation from the centre, and reflect also that the operation has to be performed with the greatest possible rapidity, our readers will see how perfect the machinery must be which is used for this work, and how skillful and expert the operators in the performance of their duty.

Our next visit is to the

EXAMINING DEPARTMENT.

Here there are from twenty to twenty-five girls at work, who may be termed inspectors, whose business it is to examine each pen singly. They take up a pen with each hand, try the points and examine the grinding, stamping, marking, slitting, temper and general appearance. Indeed

there are from twelve to fifteen classes of pens which are thrown out for many reasons, and these faults and blemishes are noted with such certainty that each examiner will sort 100 gross per day. Our guide next takes us into the

BROSSING AND VARNISHING DEPARTMENT.

The object of varnishing is to prevent rust, and impart a fine gloss and finish. For this purpose the pens are put into a perforated vessel, dipped into the varnish, then put into a sifter, in which they are made to revolve rapidly to throw off the superfluous varnish, which also partially dries them; this process is continued by shaking them in a muffle; then they are baked for four or five minutes, to dry off all the remaining moisture. They are now ready for the

BOXING ROOM,

where they are weighed off into grosses. The first gross being counted, and the rest weighed off with the counted gross as a balance, and with as much care as if they were gold. They are now ready to be put into the boxes of which each gross contains a gross, and which are too well known in the market to need description here. Over every department through which we passed there was an experienced foreman, who is thoroughly skilled, is an adept at the work, and who sees that everything proceeds with order, accuracy and precision.

Most people have doubtless heard of the nine presses through which a pin has to pass in its manufacture; here, however, each pen passes through from fifteen to twenty-five distinct operations, according to style, quality and finish. The greater portion of the pens here manufactured, being of a very fine quality, pass through from twenty-two to twenty-five operations. The Esterbrook Steel Pen Co. make over 150 different styles of pens, and have in their display from 250 to 300 hands, mostly women's pens, being particularly light, is especially favorable for each style.

The goods they produce are of acknowledged excellence, equal to the best English makers. They are sent all over the United States, also to Canada, South America, Mexico, Cuba, and many other places. Some of them have been forwarded to England.

So well is the standard and unvarying excellence of these pens known and acknowledged that fact general as well as State governments invariably require these pens to be specified in their contracts for stationery, etc. Our public schools and corporations in the same way acknowledge their undeviating excellence.

We left at last night for our visit to these works. The cleanliness, order, comfort, convenience; the marked design and adaptability of everything, was striking even to one who is used to do high honor to American manufacturing skill and enterprise.

Shell and Substance.

Many good people have a queer way of seizing the shell of wit without noticing the lack of the substance. The real truth and marrow of wisdom are easily counterfeited with empty words, which it is not at all difficult to pass off upon one in ten for profound thought. A great many of the maxims of trade, that pass current every day, are of this kind. A man, who will be found ready to be embodied in a linking folly from the beginning or to have been perverted from their original intent to something not only entirely different, but essentially false. Some of these words absolute mischief with the unthinking; others are only laughable. Nothing, for instance, can be more ludicrous than the favorite notions of teachers of the young, who are so anxious to make their copy-books as elegant as possible—a most handleable endeavor; for the annoyance, vexation and error that arise from bad penmanship are incalculable. But the reason which he assigns for

it, and which of course sounds very poetic and very just to him, is curious. Across the top of the blackboard, with plentiful flourishes and mis-used capitals, he inscribes this legend:

"The Pen is Mightier than the Sword."

The pen certainly is mightier than the sword; but still Bolwer wrote the line and had no special reference to calligraphy. The pen that makes the ugliest cross tracks, if they are legible, is just as mighty as if it rivalled the luxurious curves and dashes of the burin. And, by the way, this quotation calls to mind the curious way in which things sometimes outgrow their symbols. We never think of typifying military power except by the bayonet and the sword; though every soldier knows that in modern warfare both the sword and the bayonet are comparatively harmless and useless. Again, you shall see, among exhibited specimens of penmanship, on a finely-wrought scroll, which perhaps is put into the mouth of a rather fat eagle, some such quotation as this:

"One ink-drop on a solitary thought hath moved the minds of millions."

The truth of the sentiment is not to be questioned. But in order to move the million minds it is not at all necessary to spend any portion of the drop in heavy flourishes or superfluous hair-line splish. Indeed, the less of these the better. Probably not one of the thoughts that has moved the world was originally written in what a professor of penmanship would call elegant hand-writing. Somebody has said that it is no particular credit to a man to write a legible hand, but it is a great shame not to. Whoever succeeds in making people write so that it can be read easily, is engaged in the noblest of all enterprises.

We have thus enlarged upon the subject of modern penmanship merely to illustrate our opening sentences, which have a much wider application than to those who not only think the pen is mightier than the sword, but believe that pen is mightiest which makes the most flourishes and puts the most capital letters in places where prosody forbids them.

The following is the Chinese version of Mary and her lamb:

We get some Moll had had,
 The all some white some
 Every place Moll had had,
 The all some white some

We heard a son of Erin trying to surround
 Mary and her little lamb the other day, and this was the way we understood it:

Beggers, Mary had a little sheep,
 And the wool was white as snow;
 And wherever Mary and her sheep
 The young sheep would follow her completely
 —(Correct English Guide)

So celebrated a poem should have a French version:

La petite Marie had a little sheep,
 Ze wool was white as ze snow;
 And wherever ze little Marie went,
 Le jeune mouton was sure to go,
 —(Lipsy's copy of the Standard Anthology)

Our musician, you saw in very large imagination; much comment on this, your Deutsche:

Det Mary had got en little sheep,
 Mit her wool like snow;
 And all the where she did and went,
 De schafgöke like en

—(Berkman's Republican)

While "Our Special" at the Berlin Congress was reading the famous Gorkhshoff, who had been harking over his shoulder, made the remark: "That he knew a man who could beat that poetry, and not half try." By request of our representative he requested his brother diplomat to Schovaloff, the Russian version, which we have had called at great expense, and here present to our readers:

Mary's little lamb a little lamb,
 Whose fleece was pure as a white as an ewe;
 And wherever he went, he was sure to go,
 The lamb was sure to follow him completely

Napoleon once entered a cathedral and saw twelve silver statues. "What are these?" asked he. "These are the twelve Apostles," replied the reply. "Well," and the great emperor, "take them down, melt them, and come into money, for I let them go about doing good, as their Master did."

THE PAINT.

O'er earth's wild waste a bird's wonder flew—
All gold and sun about the glowing blue!
Could such a vision, fair, and true, and grand,
Pen unremembered o'er the waiting hand?
Should wings so white and slender on the sea,
Fill on forever, and forgotten be?
Nay! not for this the beauteous bird went forth—
A golden feather fluttered to the earth!
Then slumbering lands awoke from dark delight,
While shining marvels sprang from table white.
Far over the glorious wonder spread,
Where you have bravely bidden that birds' wings tread!
And as the sunbeams flash from hill to hill,
To spread the story of the golden bird's flight!
Till all the world was filled with joyous light,
And fluttering with Truth's winged pages white!

Attending the Convention.

The May number of the *Penman's Help*, in its first editorial, announces what purports to be the sentiments of penmen concerning the convention, namely, that many favor it, and that others regard it with distrust on account of the element of selfishness that will surely be manifested to the disgust of everybody. I do not believe that sentiment exists to any extent worthy of mention, and were not its expression in a representative paper it would in no wise be worthy of notice.

The profession of penmanship has grown a little too broad in its scope, and the field is too thoroughly occupied for an unworthy element of that sort to find entrance. The day has gone when the recognized penman was an expert at card-writing and flaming advertisements, and knowing as little of anything else as possible; self-interest and egoism were rife among that class whom we will gladly let rest in oblivion. The question now asked of a penman is: "Can you teach our boys and girls how to write?" Are you acquainted with all the different recognized departments of your profession? Have you sufficient brains to properly impart instruction? Is your moral character such as to make you a fit preceptor of young men and women?" It has come to pass that egoism in any branch of education is unmistakable evidence of stupidity. I pity that penman or teacher of any commercial branch, who fancies he has attained the acme of his profession, and that he cannot learn anything at the coming convention. His mental condition is certainly deplorable. If I understand the contents of the notes of this proposed convention, not a single element of undue selfishness is yet upon the scene, and no mental perception of any one; and from what we know of the character of the committee, we can unqualifiedly assert that the programme and proceedings of the convention will not be in the special interests of any penman, college or colleges, in any sense whatever, but they will be in the general interests of every college and penman in the United States and Canada. Now it is possible to make that convention a grand educational success, but the responsibility of making it such rests upon every business-college teacher and penman in the country. It is not to be a convention of fifty teachers, but a convention of at least three hundred and fifty of the live, practical, earnest teachers of the whole country, working with the favor of educational fire. Let no one go into that convention expecting to be a "wall flower." Every teacher in attendance will be expected as certainly to do his duty in helping on the interests of the convention, as were Lord Nelson's sailors in fighting for England at Trafalgar; and pray, let us have nothing but the plainest of plainness, and abstain from jealousy among penmen, and ostentation in according to others the more their requirements demand. Leave out their deplorable failings from mention in the profession.

I should not hesitate to advise a young teacher of commercial branches, just starting out, to borrow from fifty to seventy-five dollars, if necessary, for the purpose of attending the convention. I believe

the importance of the occasion would warrant it. I believe it also to be of the utmost importance that every business-college manager shall be present with all his teachers. Commercial colleges have been proposing for a score of years; but it has never yet been demonstrated that there is sufficient substance in them to create a cohesive force necessary for a fully developed organism. Let it be shown once for all, at that time, that they are a vital force in the system of education, or ordinate to any other branch, and an eminent exemplification of the practical requirements of the present age.

Teachers can help very materially in advertising the movement by writing up notices for the local papers. They can aid the committee of arrangements also by sending in names of teachers of commercial branches, according to request.

The time is past when the commercial course consisted of a few sets of bookkeeping to be completed in from "eight to twelve weeks," and when the *Penman* was applied too often to an unprincipled nominal whose chief purpose was to get money without giving any sort of equivalent in tuition. The day is approaching when the penman's chair shall be found in the seminary everywhere, in business colleges, normal and public schools, and when the word penman, without exception, shall be a synonym for scholar and gentleman; when the business course shall require two years of hard disciplinary study, and every feature of the course shall be clean-cut, comprehensive and accurate in all its details; and the convention will serve to hasten that day.

L. L. S.

Reading Manuscript.

"Among the school books used in France is one little known in this country, consisting of *fac-similes* of letters written by some, eminent people, &c., intended to teach children the art of reading writing, of which there is almost universal ignorance in America. Every variety of hand is selected, beginning with the best, and gradually proceeding to the scrawls which puzzle printers and 'blind-lads' men in post-offices." We cut these scraps from an exchange news paper, and suggest, without knowing it, that the fact is as therein stated. It puts in mind of a proposition made by an intelligent friend, about a year ago, to prepare and publish a similar work for the schools of this country, coupled with the doubtfully compulsory request that we ourselves—personally—not ethically—should furnish the copy for the "scraps" part of the work. Since then we have heard nothing of the project, though always ready and every day improving in ability to do our portion of the labor, with little rejoicing at the very idea of our handwriting being for once in demand.

But seriously, the French have got the start of us in this matter; and the sooner our children are taught to read manuscript, as a part of their education, the better. Whether this should be done by the use of a book of *fac-similes* of the teacher's (in all cases, as it should be, beautiful) cursive, and then sets of others, down to the specimens which could be furnished by lawyers and

editors in the vicinity, we are not prepared to say. We commend the matter to the serious attention of teachers, with the suggestion, that as one means of acquiring the power to read manuscript with the sure facility and expression as print, the pupils should be caused to read aloud and to the whole school, each other's compositions and exercises.

How often is an audience or a company pestered by the paraded rendering of some interesting written document, when, if properly delivered, justice would be done to the writer and interest and information given to the hearers? Instead of this, the bungling reader not only hesitates and misreads words, not, taking advantage of a supposed license, but a real impotence in such cases, he interpolates some unseasonable victimisms of his own, or seeks to cover his own ignorance by remarks on the handwriting, which is probably better than his own.

But the worst of it is, that even in the case of handwriting which is perfectly legible, the reader, for the person who reads it aloud, to put on the sing-song, hop-skip-and-jump style which is supposed to be as proper to the reading of manuscript as a good rendering of the thought is to printed matter. Herein is done ignorance displayed—ignorance of the proprieties of the occasion, and ignorance of a very easily acquired accomplishment—that of reading manuscript in the same manner as print.

Amongst teachers especially, the habit of properly reading manuscript should be cultivated. They are supposed to be the most learned persons in many communities, and as much of a very easy called on in public as well as in private, to read letters and other written documents, and they ought to be able to do so, in most cases, without hesitation. It is true that every writer has his own peculiar

Keep on Typing.

Tip to you bawling
Tire of wailing,
And all manner of
Our tears of success,
And all manner of
Will struggle through;
But the heart is fearful
Is left to fall.
Then give over sighing,
And to be smiling,
But still keep on typing,
And to be smiling,
For courage is ever
And to be smiling,
And every endeavor
Must fall when hope dies.

Gems from Our Scrap Book.

Deeds are fruit; words are but leaves.
As a man thinks in his heart, so he is.
Good manners are a part of good morals.
The example of the good is visible philosophy.
Prudent words have with, others only ferber waste.
Practice economy and industry and success is yours.
Man may bend to virtue but virtue cannot bend to man.

Kindness is the high tide of the soul's mobility.—
Faire.

One secret of happiness is discovering beauty everywhere.

So good thoughts and you will reap good action.—
Golden Sands.

Behold in a mirror in which every one shows his image—
Glad.

All is but wisdom which wisely we experience.—
Sir Philip Sidney.

Men, like books, have each one a blank—childhood and self are.

The true way of forgetting one's own trouble is to solve those of others.

Charity is the rarest as it is the most attractive trait of Christian character.

The smallest act is made up of very little beams that are bright all the time.

Have one settled purpose in life, and it will be honorable and bring you reward.

He who looks to God and looks for the good in the good and gathers the good.

Politeness is like an air cushion. If there is nothing in it, it causes one's joints to creak.

No cord or cable can draw so strongly or bind so fast as love can do with its magnetic force.

The Italian has a proverb, that, while one devil may tempt the leader, a thousand drive the drove.

The way to glory is through the palace; to fortune through the market; to virtue through the desert.

All nature is but art unknown to thee,
All chance, direction which these casual meet.

—Pope.
Virtue does not give talents, but it supplies the place. Talents nature give virtue not supply the place of it.

I don't like to talk much with people who always agree with me. It is amusing to converse with an echo a little while, but one soon tires of it.—*Carlyle*.

No great man or woman has ever been reared to great usefulness and lasting distinction who was schooled by adversity. Noble deeds are never done in the calm sunshine of fortune's light.

The great art of conversation consists in not saying too much, and in not saying anything that we know, in conversing with others any subject which may interest them.—*Victor Hugo*.

If you do right you and your soul are not down together, and each will help buoy up the society of the other; but if you do wrong then when your soul and you are alone together your soul feels that it is in bad company and tells you so.

When misfortune happens to such as dissent from us in matters of religion, we call them judgments; when to those of our sect, we call them trials; when to persons neither way distinguished, we are content to attribute them to the settled course of things.—*Shakespeare*.

There is a Russian proverb which says that mortals are best divided into two classes: those who find fault with men who are cruelly punishing them; all rank are only reaping the consequences of their own mismanagement, imprudence or want of attention.—*Seneca*.

So we must not see other people's garments; wash not for that which you are not, but earnestly desire to be great in the eyes of the world. Radiate your heart to the perfect joy of where you are best manifestly all the crosses you may encounter. This is the leading principle and the best understood, in a good life.—*de Saute*.

The criterion by which we judge others is apt to be more rigid than that by which we judge ourselves; the very thing that glazes in another is only an example of weakness in ourselves. Our eyes are sore upon even we look at our neighbors, but surely shut our eyes closed when we look at our own lives. We are not willing to do a positive wrong, but we are quite ready to look at our peculiarities through the big end of the telescope, though we are sure to see the weakness of which we are so sure.

Our morality is too apt to be governed by our opportunities. It is never right to take what we can get hold of, and under such circumstances, we see our duty very plainly.

Our duty very plain, but when things are not so, our ordinary consciousness make a quiet dose of responsibility and, after that, do not hold their responsibility for what happens. It is not so easy to see any grapes, John? "Yes; lots of gold, and ripe ones, too; but there's danger." "Big danger?" "Yes; awful big." "Then, John, come away; those grapes don't belong to us."

THE ABOVE CUT WAS ENGRAVED FROM A FLOURENCE BY JOHN D. WILLIAMS, AND LOANED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL BY PROF. S. B. PARKARD



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PRIVATE FORTUNES OF SOME OF THE NOTED PERSONAGES OF ANCIENT TIMES.—
Cromwell crossed a fortune of \$17,000,000; Seneca, the philosopher, \$12,500,000; Lucullus, a soothsayer, \$17,500,000; Thersites, at his death, left \$118,125,000; while Caligula spent in less than thirty months.

The Journal as a Medium of Advertising.

The present large circulation of the *JOURNAL*, teaching, as it does, a very large majority of all the teachers of writing and bookkeeping in the country, renders it a most effective medium for advertising books, merchandise and materials desired in those professions.

Teachers seeking situations, and persons desiring to employ teachers will find the columns of the *JOURNAL* an effective medium.

The fact that no advertisement is in line with the objects of the *JOURNAL* so solicited, and quite a limited number of others is desired, renders it doubly valuable to the few who do advertise.



Published Monthly at \$1.00 per Year.
P. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor,
205 Broadway, New York.

Single copies of JOURNAL sent on receipt of ten cents. Specimen copies furnished to Agents free.

ADVERTISING RATES:

	1 month.	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 year.
1 Column.	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$45.00	\$80.00
2 Columns.	20.00	50.00	90.00	160.00
3 Columns.	30.00	75.00	135.00	240.00
4 Columns.	40.00	100.00	180.00	320.00

Advertisements for one and three months, payable in advance; for six months and one year, payable quarterly in advance. No deviation from the above rates. Reading matter, 20 cents per line.

LIBERAL INDUCEMENTS.

We hope to make the Journal, an interesting and attractive to the penman or teacher who sees it can without either his subscription or a good word; we want them to be more than that. We desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, or therefore offer the following:

PREMIUMS.

To every subscriber, until further notice, we will send a copy of the John D. Williams' masterpiece, "The Penman's Art,"

To any person sending their name and another name as subscribers, including \$2, we will mail to each the Journal one year, and forward to the subscriber of the year, a copy of either of the following publications, each of which are among the best specimens of penmanship ever published, viz.:

The Continental Picture of Progress, 1898, in, in size, 100 pages, 12 illustrations, \$1.00.
The Marriage Certificate, 1898, 12 pages, 12 illustrations, \$1.00.
The Penman's Art, 1898, 12 pages, 12 illustrations, \$1.00.
The Penman's Art, 1898, 12 pages, 12 illustrations, \$1.00.

For three names and \$24 we will forward the large Continental Picture, size 24x36 inches, retail for \$2.50.
For six names and \$48 we will forward a copy of Williams' Picture's Guide, retail for \$2.50.

For twelve subscribers and \$12, we will send a copy of Ames' Compendium of Commercial Penmanship, price \$5. The same bound in gilt will be sent for sixteen subscribers and \$18, price \$7.50.

For twelve names and \$12, we will forward a copy of Williams' & Packard's Guide of Penmanship, retail for \$5.

All communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, should be addressed to the office of P. T. AMES, 205 Broadway, New York.

The JOURNAL will be issued as regularly as possible on the first of each month. Should the design for advertisement be received after the first of the month, it will be sent to the printer, but will be published only by post-office order or by registered letter. Money included in letter is not sent at our risk. Address

PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL,
205 Broadway, New York.
Give your name and address very distinctly.

NEW YORK, JULY, 1898.

Who Should Take the Journal.

1st. Every teacher of writing in any department. To such it will ever convey fresh thoughts and information which will add to their ability to interest and instruct their pupils and to their own popularity and success. A dollar's worth of information to the teacher is very small.

2d. Every pupil seeking to obtain a good practical knowledge of any department of writing, either with or without the aid of a teacher. If necessary instruction, it will have been to remember and profit more fully thereby and inspire them to greater industry and success.

3d. Every parent who has children in whom they would awaken an interest in writing, or stimulate and encourage an existing interest to more rapid progress and certain success, will find the JOURNAL the most certain and economical means for its accomplishment.

4th. Every school teacher in the United States should read the JOURNAL; it has to do with and will abide true upon an important branch of education—one which has been greatly neglected in our public schools both by teachers and school officers. It will enlighten and stimulate them to a better performance of their professional duties.

5th. Every clerk or young man who is seeking to earn a livelihood by the use of the pen, either as a writer or an accountant, such cannot fail to profit by the great fund of information pertaining not alone to writing but other kindred subjects.

6th. Every friend of educational improvement and progress should subscribe for and correspond with the JOURNAL, and thus help to make it what we shall ever strive to do—a grand medium for the best thought and information pertaining not alone to writing, but all departments of commercial education.

Business Colleges and the Journal.

It is the aim, and has been the effort of the JOURNAL to commend and advance the interests of all worthy business colleges and teachers of writing. This intention and effort on our part has, in the main, been observed, appreciated and liberally rewarded by the earnest and successful aid rendered to the JOURNAL. Fully one-half of all its subscribers have come through business colleges—from among their teachers, pupils and friends. Indeed, there are very few commercial colleges from which have not come large clubs of subscribers. Their proprietors have been sufficiently discerning of the value of the JOURNAL to send to create an interest in writing and business education and a desire for facilities for greater advancement, when the commercial college will be the most natural place for them to go. Yet to our great surprise, a few days since we received a letter, containing the names of a large club, from a teacher of penmanship in a western business college, in which he says: "Please address all communications to me at my teaching house, because Prof., the proprietor of the college, seems opposed to the circulation of the JOURNAL among the students."

Now, as we said before, we are friendly to business colleges and their managers. We therefore withhold the name of this gentleman, lest the possession of such sagacity and liberality should be received as evidence of many other equally commendable qualities. A teacher and manager, which, made public, might attract students to his rooms in some unbecoming numbers as to become burdensome and ruinous.

It Would Surprise

The many honest, whole-souled subscribers to the JOURNAL to be present and observe, for a short period of time, the enormous number and varied character of the communications addressed to us through the mail.

One appreciative but economical young man writes on a postal card: "I am very much interested in the copies of the JOURNAL, which you have so kindly sent me. It is certainly the best penman's paper I have ever seen, and I wish you success. I hope you will continue to mail me an occasional copy. Please tell me through your columns what you think of my writing." Ans. We think it a fine specimen effort to sponge valuable information. We anticipate in due time that he may read our answer another postal from this writer, reading this: "Please mail to my address the July number of your excellent JOURNAL."

On another postal card we read:

"MISTIE EVILER
"I am a farmer boy and never had any teacher in writing excepting in a district school. I see in a copy of your penman's paper that you tell people what you think of their writing. Please be so kind as to tell me in your next what you think of mine for a boy of only sixteen."

"P. S.—I expect to subscribe for the JOURNAL in a few months."

Don't wait. We advise you to do so at once. It will improve your writing, which is already good.

Another postal card, which adds more to our vanity than finances, reads this:

"DEAR SIR:—I have been told that you devote splendid specimens of penmanship. I should be pleased to see a few specimens of your writing. I should like a few specimens of cards, and a doctored

card, also please mail to my address a copy of your interesting paper for June. I have seen most of the numbers and would be happy to see that."

Now we are naturally benevolent, and nothing, except getting paid for service rendered, delights us more than bestowing happiness upon others, certainly upon a friend of the JOURNAL; but why not enclose one dollar on the subscription? We will mail the JOURNAL and be mutually happy. Try it, please.

Another correspondent covers three entire pages of foolscap with a biographical sketch of himself, adding truthfully, no doubt: "I should be happy to read this in the columns of your beautiful JOURNAL—" but since in all probability his happiness would be greatly exceeded by our unhappiness, we beg to decline the writer of another postal card, a stranger to us, evidently has perfect confidence in himself, for he says: "Please forward to my address one copy of Ames' Compendium of Practical and Ornamental Penmanship, and I will remit on receipt of the same. I have heard it was a very fine work." So it is; so fine and expensive that we must decline to mail it, especially to strangers, on an order by postal card. Remit \$5.00 and you will have the pleasure of receiving your copy by return mail.

The writer of no one of the foregoing communications, which are only a few among hundreds similar, is a subscriber to the JOURNAL, nor have they even enclosed stamps to pay the postage on favors which they have the presumption to ask from us gratuitously. Nearly all admire the JOURNAL, and wish it an success; but how, pray, is it to be obtained on the basis of giving value and paying our own postage for nothing? Will they please try it by mailing us just a dollar or two gratuitously? They can test the matter on their own basis—simply do as they would be done by. We will weakly bear the test.

We doubt not that many of the writers of such communications are conscientious and honest, but they are inexperienced or thoughtless regarding the equities of business, while others, we hope few, are knavish and mean, deliberately seeking to obtain value by check and device. The former, we trust, will find in this article a profitable lesson; the latter are a species of human vultures, upon whom good advice is wasted and from whom there seems to be no escape.

Our advice to both classes is that they carry the practice of their peculiar ideas of economy a little further, and save their postal card, for in future such communications will pass unnoticed directly to our trash basket.

Penman's Convention.

All teachers or authors of writing or any of the commercial branches who have not had a circular of invitation to the convention and a copy of the programme, are respectfully requested by the committee to at once apply for the same by addressing a card to William Allen Miller, Chairman of Committee, Packard's Business College, 505 Broadway, New York. It is the earnest wish that all receive and respond to the invitation; let there be an attendance which for numbers and ability shall do honor to the profession.

An outline of the proceeding and report of the committee will be found in another column. We might add that the prospects for a large gathering of the live workmen of the profession is promising, even more so than we dared anticipate at the outset. Many who, owing to distance, or other causes, cannot attend, express the warmest interest in the success of the convention, and are anxious to see the results published in some convenient form, for reference and study—and offering to pay a portion of any necessary expense.

The promise to attend, of such pioneers as R. M. Bartlett, Hon. Ira Mayhew,

Jonathan Jones, and a score of others, is omens of the wide-spread interest which has been awakened in this the first penman's convention ever held in this or perhaps any other country.

Agents Wanted

In every town in the United States and Canada to solicit subscriptions to the JOURNAL, to whom we are anxious to offer the most liberal inducements. Notwithstanding our large lists, there are still thousands of teachers, pupils and persons interested in penmanship who would readily subscribe for the JOURNAL were it properly presented and their subscriptions solicited. We are determined, if possible, to increase the number of subscribers to 50,000 before the close of the present volume, and why not? That would be but little more than one per cent. of the population in the United States and Canada. Can there be any doubt that there is an average of one person to each post office who would be sufficiently interested in penmanship to subscribe for the JOURNAL were it properly brought to his notice. We think not?

But how are they to be secured, is the question; we propose to make the effort through our present subscribers; such has to do but little to help us to our 50,000. As an inducement, we have embodied in a circular a most liberal system of cash premiums, which we will mail on application to any person who wishes to act as our agent.

Co-operative Life Insurance.

Few institutions are founded for more worthy and benevolent purposes, or, when honestly and economically conducted, capable of bestowing greater benefit upon mankind than life insurance. Most persons will concede this as a fact. Yet in the past few years, through the failures and impositions of Life Insurance Companies, multitudes are standing aloof from such institutions. Confidence has been weakened or utterly destroyed in their security and integrity. There can be no question, that a plan of life insurance, which secures to the insured the fullest benefit of all money paid, by deducting the minimum for the necessary expense of conducting the business, is worthy of commendation.

Several such associations have been recently organized among the various trades, professions and occupations. The plan is mutual and equitable, and is thus: Several numbers of a trade or profession mutually agree to pay an initiatory and annual fee of \$2 or \$5, then at the death of any member, pay to his representative \$2 or \$5 each. This method insures the payment of the largest sum possible for the expenditure. Losses are paid promptly from the fund accumulated from entry fees and annual dues, or by an advance assessment collected from each member at the time of joining the association. On this plan there is no complicated and expensive machinery or a custody of accumulated millions which tempt alike to extravagance and fraud. From the very nature of the plan there can be no reserve capital beyond a few thousand dollars necessary to meet promptly all losses as they occur, and thus prevent delay from collection of assessments. The economy of this plan is at once apparent, and its security is in the fact that there is no inducement or opportunity for robbery.

An association has recently been formed in this city, and incorporated under the title of "The Mutual Benefit Association of New York," which seems to embody all the excellent features of this plan.

Classes are formed among the various trades and professions. The membership of each class is limited to 500. Persons between the ages of 18 and 45 years having passed a proper medical examination, are admitted by paying \$5 and agreeing to pay the same annually and on the death

of any member. When the class is full the sum paid in case of death is \$2.50, and proportionate when not full. We shall endeavor to give a more full account of the workings and advantages of this plan in some future issue.

Joint Stock Company Book-keeping.

We have received a copy of *Johnson's Joint Stock Company Book-keeping*, published by S. G. Beatty & Co., proprietors of the Ontario Business College, Belleville, Ont. This is a practical work of eighty octavo pages, and is a concise and complete guide in the method of forming joint stock companies and for keeping the business records of the same. It will be found not only a valuable text-book for those teaching book-keeping, but an invaluable hand-book to persons having charge of the organization or keeping the accounts of joint stock companies. The work is advertised in another column.

A New Ruling Pen.

We invite attention to Gibbnie's ruling pen, advertised in another column by the Esterbrook Steel Pen Co., of 26 John street. This pen will be of special service to accountants, pupils in business colleges and draughtsmen. It gives a firm and uniform line, which cannot be varied, like a line from a common pen, by the degree of pressure. It possesses genuine merit, and only needs to be used to be appreciated.

Not Responsible.

It should be distinctly understood that the editor of the JOURNAL is not to be held as incurring any liability outside of its editorial columns. All communications, not objectionable in their character or devoid of interest or merit, are received and published; if by any person differs, the columns are equally open to him to say so and tell why.

Correction.

In our June number we stated that Jos. M. Vincent was teaching writing at the Los Angeles, Cal., Business College, which was not correct; he is not engaged as a teacher, but characterizes himself as an admirer of penmanship. We accuse him of being a very skillful writer.

The Phenological Journal.

We invite attention to the advertisement in another column of this interesting and valuable publication. It treats ably upon subjects of vital importance to everybody. We take pleasure in commending it.

Business College Items.

Dettler and Magee, proprietors of the Toledo, O., Business College, have just issued an attractive prospectus for 1878.

Hall's College Journal (San Francisco, Cal.), for 1878 has been received. It is got up in good style, and is published monthly for \$1.00 per year.

H. C. Clark, proprietor of the Forest City Business College, Rockford, Ill., has just issued his college *Journal* for 1878. It is edited with ability, well printed, and is in every way creditable.

D. L. Mueselmann, proprietor of the Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., has just issued his college *Journal* for 1878. It is one of the most attractive and readable college papers we have received.

The R. S. and Claghorn Business College, Brooklyn, closed for a vacation with interesting public exercises. Twenty-five diplomas were awarded, and addresses made by the teachers. The college has been unusually prosperous during the past year.

The twelfth annual commencement of the Spencerian Business College, Washington, D. C., occurred on May 25th, upon which occasion twenty-eight diplomas were awarded to fully and well-trained graduates. Under the able management of Prof. H. C. Spencer, the Washington college has

won an enviable reputation, and is enjoying a good degree of well-deserved prosperity.

Promoted.

Miss Norma L. Eltinge, graduate and teacher of Packard's Business College, of this city, and recently accountant for the *North American Review*, was married on Wednesday, June 26, to Mr. Arthur Cooper, an attaché of A. S. Barnes & Co.'s publishing house.

Mr. Cooper is to be congratulated upon his good fortune. Comparatively few young men in these days have the grace to discover the true gold in a woman's character, and fewer young ladies have the practical good sense to accommodate for the married state the wealth of self-dependence. The circumstances of the case, and our duty to the readers of this journal, require all this to be said.



I. S. Preston spends the summer at Saratoga, where he will favor the "chit" with cards written in style, most beautiful.

G. B. South, who has just given a course of writing lessons to the "Gazette," N. H., public schools, receives a highly complimentary notice in the *Annals* of Education.

A REMARKABLE REMINDER.—Capt. Tyler, a teacher of penmanship in our public schools,

specimen of pen-drawing was shown to the Institute, executed by Miss Nellie Carter, a pupil of Mrs. Miller's.



O. J. Hill, Dryden, N. Y., sends specimens of writing and flourishing which are very creditable.

S. Moody, East Charleston, Vt., incloses a well written letter, several superior specimens of plain and flourished cards.

F. O. Young, Camden, Me., sends a few lines of elegant writing, and two superior specimens of off-hand flourishing.

J. H. Cruise, Memphis, N. Y., favors us with a very elaborately flourished bird specimen and some very gracefully written cards.

C. W. Rice, Marysville, Ohio, aged seventeen years, sends a very handsomely written letter and incloses his photograph for our collection.

P. L. Summ, Burlington, forwards a most elegant specimen of flourishing which we anticipated presenting in the JOURNAL, but the lines proved too delicate for reproduction.

Chas. D. Bigelow, Springfield, N. Y., writes a letter in masterly style and incloses a very gracefully executed specimen of flourishing and some specimens of card writing.

J. E. Soule, Philadelphia, Pa., favors us with three photographic copies of engrossed resolutions recently executed by him. They

Answers to



S. G. J., Rushford, Minn.—We have no information regarding Mr. Multher. Your writing is very free and graceful. It has too many superlatives for business, your loops especially are too long and full.

C. F. D., Latrobe, Pa.—While excusing specimens of flourishing it is elementary and advisable to turn the paper, to suit the angle of your lines, rather than endeavor to change the position of pen and hand.

H. M. T., Bridgetown, N. J.—Your writing is easy, graceful and sufficiently correct for business purposes, but it lacks precision necessary for teaching, which you could soon acquire by careful practice from and study of correct copies.

E. B. F., Boston, Mass.—The best method to learn how to make good figures is to procure a good copy of them and study and practice the same carefully. Figures should be made light and uniform in shade and size. A good form will be found in another column on our sheet of copy slips sent for ten cents.

F. C. Lowell, Mass., submits two styles of his writing, one in a light, accurate hand, and a writing-master's style; another written with a coarse pen in a rapid easy professional style, and asks our advice relative to which is best for him to adopt. This depends entirely upon what use he is to make of his writing. If as a teacher or professional penman, the correct, delicate professional hand will be best; if for business purposes the latter style is most decidedly



has not been fairly or lost a day in ten years, six of them here and four in other places.—*Fort Wayne, Ind., Daily News.*

A. J. Warner, Principal of the Elmira, N. Y., Business College gave us a call while on his way to the New England States for a vacation. Prof. Warner is an accomplished penman and successful teacher of writing.

W. E. Ponds, who is engaged teaching writing at Wright's Business College, Brooklyn, N. Y., is taking his vacation at his home in Chester, N. H. On this page we give a fine specimen of flourishing from his pen. He is fast advancing toward the front rank of his profession.

J. C. Miller, who has for some time past been in charge of the penmanship department of the "Keystone Business College," Lancaster, Pa., is spending a season at Felsburg, Pa., endeavoring to regain his health. We hope he may succeed. He has been a hard-working student and teacher of his profession. It would indeed be a misfortune were he to himself and the profession were his faithful though impaired health.

In a report of Yale county Teacher's Association, the *Margville Appeal* says:

Mrs. A. L. Miller delivered a very interesting and interesting paper on penmanship, in which she told the teachers how to impart instruction in this particular branch in a manner and see that the pen is held correctly, and not omit to give due attention to the hand and arm movements in writing. A fine

specimen of penmanship, and evince great artistic skill.

J. Q. Overman, who has just completed a course of lessons in writing with J. McBride, sends a hand-somely written letter in which he incloses several well-written slips. The specimens are very creditable to both teacher and pupil.

W. L. White, Principal of White's Business College, Portland, Oregon, favors us with his portrait, and some most elegant specimens of writing. The cards which he incloses are exquisite; we have received none finer.

A. N. Palmer, a pupil at Gaskell's Business College, Manchester, N. H., sends some very creditable specimens of writing, flourishing and card marking. Master Palmer is evidently a promising candidate for distinction among the "Knights of the Quill."

M. C. Blackburn, Worcester, Mass., forwards several sheets of off-hand flourishing which are skillful in design, and executed in the most masterly manner. We have rarely seen them excelled in either respect. They will constitute one of the most attractive pages in our specimen book.

Crish McKee, teacher of penmanship at Oberlin College, writes a beautiful letter, and incloses some remarkably fine specimens of muscular and whole-arm writing. The specimens are well worthy of a place in the JOURNAL, but owing to delicacy of the lines it is not possible to photo-engrave them.

the best. The same writer asks why it is that pupils at commercial colleges and elsewhere do not acquire a practical business hand. This question is fully answered in No. 12, Vol. 1 of the JOURNAL, in an article entitled: "Can a pupil learn to write well by rapid practice?"

W. D., Parkersburg, W. Va.—I have a few questions to ask you, and you would confer a great favor on me by answering them through the columns of your valuable paper, the JOURNAL.

First. Does the point of the pen come squarely on the paper in the flourishing exercise of the last JOURNAL? Yes.

Second. Does the *Spencerian Companion* contain the complete system, plan and ornamental penmanship? No, of neither. The key is a complete guide to plan penmanship.

Third. What pen would you recommend for exercising in flourishing? *Spencerian No. 1, Esterbrook No. 128, or Ames's Favorite No. 1.*

Fourth. It is very hard for me to get hold of a good quality of ink here. I would like a hint as to the best? *Deane's or Harrison's black ink are as good as any known to us for common use.*

An Australian is trying to invent a machine which shall keep the pen clean and last as long as it moves along. When he gets it done America will add an attachment with which the wheel, driven by a pump, will draw the pen-stamps each barrel with XXXX.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Don't fail to attend or to be heard from at the penman's convention.

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ARTIST
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RESOLUTIONS, TESTIMONIALS & ENGRAVED
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light every time you use it, send for our circular giving full description with prices for Mark Twain's

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THE PENMAN'S JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICAL AND THE ORNAMENTAL IN PENMANSHIP.

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D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor.
B. F. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1878.

VOL. II. NO. 5.

Circle of Penmen and Business Colleges, occupying three lines of space, will be inserted in this column for \$2.50 per year.

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My First Writing School.

A STORY.

BY PAUL PARSONS.

Twenty-five years ago, on a dull, cold November evening, I entered the little village of W— in the State of Maine. I had travelled on foot from Boston, through the heart of New England, picking up a stray job here and there, but meeting with no particular success in my favorite art. Now, footsore, tired, disappointed and almost discouraged, I tramped through the principal street of this pretty, rural hamlet, almost cursing the snug little homes and happy, frisking children, that only made my own lot seem so doubly hard. But these bitter feelings could not last long. My better heart rose up and thrust them out; and wandering a gay air, I made my way into the parlors of the neat village inn. There were the usual number of loungers and hangers on, grouped around the little rickshaw, consequent story, which one always associates with the waiting-room of a country hotel. As I entered, a tall, typical Yankee was entertaining the wide-mouthed crowd with some choice bit-bits of gossip. Of course I could not help listening, and this is what I heard:

"My Phoebe Ann hearn Jack Bibbin's Mar' teline! Hod Smith's hired gal that Sue Allen hearn from Ann Hotchins that Squire Hill's h— school darter come home yesterday, 'no howsick she couldn't stay no longer,' she says; but Ann Hotchins says 'that's all a sham, she come home to see young Blake, that's what she come home for.'"

"Yes," broke in another voice, "and I see young Blake haug'n' round Squire Hill's hedge to-night, I did, an' a-dirtin' he's haug'n' through a hole in the fence."

"What's agin' him?" cried the first speaker. "Why, he's the toughest young buck out o' jail. He was one as helped carry o' Judge Parker's leg in the scrimmage they had over at Painesville, time o' the dance. He's fished more nor twenty gals in these parts, with his quirted moustache an' big gray eyes. Member Belinda Cobb, what's dead? Well, he flung more clods on her coffin than ever the stone did."

Just then the big, clanging supper bell pealed through the halls, and the little group broke up. Making my way into the dingy dining room, I took my seat with the landlady and his family, a few laborers and *attaches*, and one transient guest like myself. His appearance struck me very forcibly. He was strikingly handsome, well-built, easy and cool in his manners, gentlemanly in his dress, and possessed the most beautiful pair of great gray eyes I ever saw. My landlady evidently dared not say his tongue was his own in the presence of this lusty giant, and everyone seemed fairly to adore this proud Greek god. Some deference, of course, was paid to myself, as being the only other guest the house could host; but it was very easy to see that the elegant Blake, for such I took him to be, was the sun around whom I was expected to revolve, in company with all other luminaries, both great and small. Supper passed. My fellow guest had only favored me with a casual glance as I entered, and yet I could tell by his manner that he was uncomfortably conscious of my presence. Without ceremony, he left the table as soon as he had finished his supper; and that was the last I saw of him, until the events which I am about to relate transpired.

I had engaged the little school-house for Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. There were two good blackboards there, with plenty of clean, white chalk, and I was in my element, especially since I had a propering class of ten under my immediate supervision. It was the second Saturday after my arrival, and I was just initiating my interested class into the mysteries of the Spencerian capital elements, when a timid tap at the door interrupted me in the midst of my work. I descended from my platform and answered the knock. Ye Gods! what a glory broke upon my dazzled eyes, as I opened the door! Only a girl, but what a face! In complexion like a daisy, with the faintest suggestion of a lively rose-petal, rubbed twice or three over its pale petals. Then all around this oval whiteness such an aureole of unruly gold, and a top of all the daintiest little bird's-wing hair, with a silver clasp catching up a handful of gauzy ribbons. Then the features of the maid Grecian and delicate, with a pair of the deepest sea-blue eyes to light them up! Ah! it was a vision that I shall never forget. And I must have stood there entranced for a long time, while the sweet face blushed under my devouring eyes; but at length, recovering my wonted politeness, I courteously requested the young lady to walk in, and surrendered to her

the only comfortable chair in the room; that used by the teacher during recitation hours. She said that she had heard of my wonderful skill in the penman's art, and had been impelled by her own love of the beautiful to come and see some of the wonders of modern penmanship. I am afraid that my poor pupils lost the benefit of that afternoon's lesson, for from three o'clock until five, I did nothing but gaze down into those bright, beautiful eyes, and daub my inspired crayon over the ebony tablet. I surprised myself. Surely, I had never before dreamed of, much less seen, some of the rare forms which flowed from my hand. Perhaps it was the spell of beauty which informed my heart and found its expression in every thought and motion. The afternoon waned; and when the dingy little school-room grew weird and dusk, I flung aside my crayon, dismissed my pupils, and offered to escort my fair guest to her home. Out into the twilight world we passed, her little arm in mine, and those ethereal, gauzy ribbons fluttering in my face like an evening mist. Out over the hill she led me, across the stretch of lowland beyond, and then up again to the great stone mansion on the opposite slope. There we parted, and I even ventured to hold her tiny hand in mine for a brief moment, as I bade her good-night. Then she turned and tripped lightly up the broad pathway, till the guttering shades hid her from my sight.

So this angel was the Squire's "hoarline" house darter?" My heart told me this much, and more, that I tried to hush. My whole being was a-tingle with the most delicate sensations. I had never before realized what I had so often read in my favorite French authors, that love was the strongest and most subtle electricity in the realm of matter. Still feeling the pressure of her arm in mine, and thrilling with the remembrance of her presence, I turned my steps toward the village.

The days flew on. Both Blake and Miss Hill had become members of my writing class, and although I never had the pleasure of escorting her home, that pleasant date deriving upon him when I had not presumption enough to call my rival, still those sunny afternoons in the old school-room were ideally happy to me; for could I not feast my eyes upon her marvellous beauty, and did not her cheeks glow with wonder and enthusiasm, as I sketched upon her board the most feathery and delicate and bird-like outlines my inspiration and my art could produce? Blake, too, surprised as he was, under ordinary circumstances, could not withstand the enthusiasm of his fair companion and the true spirit of art. Often I could trace a sudden flash of admiration and respect in his face, as he sat breathlessly watching the rapid course of my crayon. But the instant that the lesson was finished, and the dark board cleansed of its glowing handles, the old pride came upon him, and, without so much as deigning me a glance, he would draw Miss Hill's arm within his own, and lead her, gazing so archly and happily up into his matchless face, from the room.

It was Saturday night, cloudy, cold and wrapped about with a stygian mantle of blackness. I had retired, but a great unrest kept me tossing and awake. Finally I arose, drew on my outer garments, wrapped myself in a huge comforter, and went forth into the night. There was no wind, and all was as still as death. Far away, I could hear the swift, faint roll of carriage wheels on the frozen road. Bending my steps toward the school-house, I was surprised to see a sudden flash of light illuminate the windows, and then die as suddenly away. What did it mean? Was the building on fire? I hastened my steps, and came peeping up to the door. It was unlocked and ajar. I found it open, passed through the small water-room, and descended the school-room. All was dark, dark as the grave; but out of the mysterious depths came a glow, low voice:

"Softer, eh?" have you got her?"
Thanks to my ready wits, I comprehended the situation in a moment, and decided on the course I would pursue. Muffling my face with my comforter, I replied,
"Yes, she's in the carriage; but how about the daisi?"
"Oh, that's all right, wait a moment, till I fetch down this board again, and I will be with you."

This opportunity for withdrawal was just what I had been waiting for; so, without wasting further words, I retreated through the entry, and had just reached the door, when a sudden thud struck me. Quickly returning to the main room, I muttered in a low voice,

"Where did you lay the key? So one has locked us in."
A hushing call followed this barefaced statement of mine, and then my unknown companion in the darkness replied,
"On the corner of the table next the wall."

In a moment the little metal treasure was in my hand, and, passing swiftly through the hall, I swung the great oak door on its hinges and locked the villain in. At that instant a swift-trailing carriage stopped at the gate, and a man descended from within, throwing a latch-weight, attached to the tail of his horse, into the road. I crouched in the shadow, and stole away along the side of the school-house. The man came directly to the door, and tried it. I could hear his muttered curses, as he found it locked. Then he sprang off the steps and began to tug at the nearest window-sash. Now was my chance. Carefully circling in the intense gloom, I passed round him, and sprang for the team. One glance at its contents told me all. I threw in the hitch weight, jumped to the seat, and sent the impatient steed off at a thundering pace. There was a shout, a pistol shot, and a crashing of glass, but we were off.

I drove directly to Squire Hill's, roused the family, delivered up my fair and fainting passenger, and then drove maddly away to the village for help. Within half an hour, a score of determined men were on the track of the two villains. We caught them, just at daylight, in a piece of woods

on Square Hill's farm. One of them carried a value in it which was found ten thousand dollars in money and some valuable papers and jewelry. A search revealed the fact that Square Hill's desk had been robbed sometime previously, but that the robbery was not the one that was remembered, and that the Square, himself, had not noticed anything amiss in the disposition of his papers or bills. His daughter afterwards confessed that she had admitted young Blake to a private interview, and that, in seeming anger, he had left the room, and, as she supposed, had taken the money. She was not sure, but her love for him was turned into loathing and fear. The robbers would be abductors were conveyed to the county jail, and, as I suppose, suffered the full penalties of the law. But I shall never forget the little old school-house where I first met my charming wife, nor those many happy days when I was looking into her glorious eyes, I taught, or tried to teach, my first writing school.

Modesty and Truthfulness among Penmen.

We were glad to see in the July issue of the JOURNAL an answer to the article on "Modesty among Penmen."

We rather expected more, but we are pleased that Mr. Kibbe has wielded his pen and expressed himself in favor of reform, and sorry that he has wasted so much paper in critiquing our article.

Who like opposition, however, as it is the inciting power to reform. Carlyle says, "I don't like to talk much with people who always agree with me. It is amusing to coquette with an echo a little while, but one soon tires of it."

We do not wish to quibble with Mr. Kibbe on small points, but would like to state why we wrote the article in the manner in which it was written, and why we think it better than a mildly written article, and also to correct some of his criticisms. Perhaps the reason we like our own style of writing the article better than another was, because we wrote it ourselves; at least we are inclined to believe that we could not write upon that subject with any less plainness or vehemence.

We always, however, try to keep within the bounds of propriety. The practical use of the style was to excite attention, incite opposition and so circulate the subject.

Mr. Kibbe will acknowledge that the style of the article attracted his attention, and to such a degree that he wrote an article upon it.

Now, if the article had been written in a smooth, buttery style, giving the reader a mild impression that some penman did not advertise in just a proper way, there would be fifty chances to one that Mr. K. would not have been moved to write an article and advocate himself as a friend to reform. In such a case the reform would fall flat and the article be forgotten, perhaps even by those for whose benefit it was intended. Now the ball is rolling, and we earnestly hope it will not stop until the reform is complete.

Mr. K. informs us that we have cited among our examples of professional penmen three who have advertised in the manner attacked by us. We were ignorant of the fact, and are sorry they do it, or did it. So are we ignorant of the fact that some of these advertisers studied the art of penmanship under some of these professional gentlemen mentioned. How could we know, you know. We will have to take Mr. K.'s word for it.

The idea, however, that these professional gentlemen should be attacked instead of their pupils, we think erroneous. Does a writing teacher instruct his pupils how to swim, or to write? Is it any part of his business to teach his pupils how to advertise? Does he look for the fruit of his labors in the pupil's manner of advertising or in his penmanship? The fruit of the tree by which it is known in this case,

therefore, is not advertising, but penmanship.

In Mr. K.'s next observation he overlooks the point intended, which was the fact that the best card-writer in the U. S. ought to, and would command a higher price for his work than others, and still claim upon a few of a few cents, which does not interest us or concern the subject of reform.

It was not our intention to be personal in noting advertisements; but as Mr. K. is then so bold as to attack the editor, in person, we will be excused in using the same title. We beg the editor's pardon for overlooking his advertisement and for not placing it among the model advertisements. We were at a loss to know whether Mr. K. is or is not concerning this advertisement or *the* advertisement, we do not think that he is *the* author of *it*, *he* is not, we are certain that his joking. He probably is in earnest, as he evidently refers to the editor when he affirms that one of the professional penmen ended in our own article as patterns, "advertisers to do every variety of penwork in the most perfect manner." We will endeavor to show Mr. K. that the editor's advertisement is legitimate, proper and within the bounds of modesty and truthfulness.

In the first place, he may say, "I content in a perfect number, and I am content in a perfect number." The omission of that important "I" relieves the advertisement of personal assumption, to a large degree. He does not affirm that he does the best work ever executed with a pen, nor does he claim to do the best work in the United States, nor does he assert that he scuds out better work than any other penman. These were some of the statements we attacked in our article. His advertisements, moreover, are not only accompanied by a list of testimonials and high encomiums from officials, and gentlemen in high position as he cause his own advertisements to appear very mild.

That, as we remarked in our former article, is a proper, legitimate and acceptable way of advertising. It seems strange that men have adopted in any degree this bragging manner of advertising. It seems to have been growing on the profession imperceptibly; no one knows how or why, and that too in the face of the fact, that of all professions or businesses where we ought not to expect to find it, here it is. A merchant may advertise his goods in a most extravagant way; he may advertise to sell cheaper than any other house, and keep the best goods in the city.

Very well, if he has the capital to back up such an assertion, there is nothing to carp at in his advertisement, for the reason that the goods are not his own workmanship. If he is a manufacturer, and has his own workmanship, one would naturally look for more moderate language, to say the least. We do not doubt but that some of these persons would be too modest to advertise their own workmanship, and with their friends, that they make in advertising. Therefore, they do themselves a wrong by misrepresenting their real character to the public. Some also may advertise thus because others do, when in any other case they would not think of praising their own work. We leave the subject to the consideration of those whom it interests.

W. L. G.

Remember !

That the teacher or author of writing or book-keeping, who fails to attend the convention on the 6th inst., misses a golden opportunity for enriching his mind by the best experience and thoughts of the ablest representatives of his profession. No similar or equal opportunity for comparing and receiving new thoughts has ever been presented. Come one; come all.

Progress of Practical Education.

BY PROF. H. RUSSELL, JOLIET, ILL.

The notable and interesting interest in relation to penmanship, is among the hopeful signs of the times. A large number of our classical and scientific institutions of learning are introducing the commercial branches into their course of instruction, and penmanship is, of course, one of the prominent features of the course. The public schools also have adopted it as a practical branch, and to the good sense of the people we can always look for hope and encouragement in all that pertains to that which is practical and useful at all times, while high-toned nobodies are satisfied with nothing but what pertains to the musty antiquities of the past, and exceedingly shocked at the practical branches, lest they might, in some way, interfere with their mosaic-like ages of the fossils of past ages. Happily for the future, however, there is something moving forward in its grand triumphant power, that the popular demands and requirements of the people are for a more useful course of instruction, and that grand old maxim, "Teach your boys men; which they will practice when they become men," is, instead of being a dead letter, a living, glowing reality. But while progress in this direction is not what it should be in all respects, the last report of the Commissioner of Education shows it to be totally on the wrong track, and in this respect encourages the friends of progress and practical and sensible education everywhere.

Another very encouraging point is, that the Commissioner of Education, Gen. John Eaton, of Washington, is the true friend of such education, and every where throughout his most admirable annual educational reports, he speaks with unqualified praise of our Commercial Colleges, and the great good being accomplished by them. A comparison of his report issued by him in 1876, and in 1879, will show the most gratifying and wonderful improvement in practical educational progress, and I hereby, in behalf of our Commercial Colleges, take this occasion to extend to Gen. Eaton our most sincere thanks in behalf of the fraternity. I feel warranted in so doing and believe that this action will receive the hearty concurrence of the brethren and friends of practical education everywhere, who will not only be free to add their own great reason to congratulate ourselves upon the fact, that we have at the helm of Education in this nation, "*The right man in the right place*."

Failure in Teaching.

[illegible]

If the penmanship departments of our Business Colleges were conducted on the plan of normal schools, requiring graduates to practice teaching under the eye of

a good teacher, we would soon hear less about failure and more about success in teaching penmanship. CRITIQUE.

Editor Penman's Art Journal.

Early in the agitation of the subject of a women's convention, there were showed ones who had never been and could not be deceived, and knew that private interests at the bottom of the movement. They had, too, a lurking notion that a convention might be of advantage to them personally. They saw that the cause was in the shoulder to the wheel and endeavor to push the whole affair into a worthy position. They waited until the convention became a fact and were constrained by the necessity of preserving their identity to move. It should not be intimated that the shrewdness alluded to, is akin to jealousy, or self-sufficiency or any other monster. But there is no *seems* to be there and no *seems* to be there. They are the distrustful soul who has not learned liberality, and who probably sees an ax on the shoulder of every delegate to this convention, and who, if he attends, will do so mainly to absorb and not dispense information. A very large majority of those who will be present seem eager to meet their friends. Their letters tell of an interest in the convention, which is apart from that of proprietorship. It is a fraternal interest.

It is essentially good that teachers and superintendents in the common schools have interested themselves in the convention. They sensibly regard "practical education" as popular education. The idea underlying this movement is novel. It tends to revive consideration of the essentials of education. This is not to be a writing-master's convention, nor a meeting of business college men merely. Business college education is not and should not be the only type of education. There is a case for mutual congratulation, that the power of representatives of common school education is apparently to be felt at this meeting. There can be no wide ground between common school and commercial educators, although their spheres are necessarily distinct. There should exist between them a sense of dependence, such as the conditions really warrant. There should be fellowship and co-operation. The influence of certain active charlatans has weakened and undermined the respect for this assembly of some educators; and now it is to be hoped that the action of this convention will mark the beginning of a restoration of confidence and right relations among all classes of teachers.

WM. ALLEN MILLER.

Gen. Sherman is a very versatile man. But a day or two since he was talking patriotism to the West Pointers; yesterday he formed the principal attraction at Princeton, where, among other things, he touched upon the much-mooted topic of the relations of science to religion. Among other things he said:

Tell me not that science is antagonistic to religion. Science is but the knowledge of nature and nature's laws, and he who penetrates farthest into the book of nature penetrates the furthest into the wisdom and the power of God. Science but realizes the littleness of human intellect, and thus exalts religion. That religion which checks human knowledge, and by torturing the meaning of words, attempts to circumscribe it by artificial mists and bounds, is not divine, but is mere priestcraft. It is of the earth, and is a very tyrant—and emanates from the human race. It is the religion of those who made the spheres and balanced them in space is a great God. He invites man to penetrate His mysteries and have as far as his limited intellect can reach, but wisely makes each step in the progress of development so difficult that new knowledge shall be the reward of the diligent search of patient toil and labor, to which all men are doomed. —*Elizabeth Daily Journal*.

[The following beautiful poem, by a well-known teacher in the Macomber, N. H., Business College, is from the *House Gleaner*, Boston.]

Stranded.

BY L. A. CORBETT.

I walked on the sands, when the red and gold
Of the suns bright, parting ray,
Saw the earth and sky in its gleam to fold,
But the waters, to my, looked dark and cold,
And my hope seemed fed for aye.

Far up on the shore, lay a stranded boat,
Where the waves had laid it high—
It looked as if never again might float,
For I lay on it, in the rocks grim throw,
And it would have been my life.

The oars were at rest in each clanking lock;
The rudder useless hung;
The deck was the floor, the floor the deck,
And the breeze at the light sails seemed to mock,
As the waves beneath they swung.

Then I said, "Thy emblem of my fate,
For my life is stranded high—
I would I could swim, and swim my fate,
And men for the fallen never wait—
I'm better safe to die."

But even as I spoke, the returning tide,
Before me, rippling ran,
The dry wharf below me rose wide,
Where waves could reach the vessel's side,
And I sailed off at last.

A sailboat never pulled ashore;
The white sails caught the breeze;
And I sailed off at last, and I sailed off at last,
And I sailed off at last, and I sailed off at last,
And I sailed off at last, and I sailed off at last.

Then, phoning life, hope, my joy and heart springs,
From the waves of better life,
And the shore, the heaven-born better life,
As the waves beneath they swung,
To take up my burden of life.

The English Angular Hand.

During the past few years there has been, among young ladies of the so-called better class of society, a growing tendency to adopt a style of writing which with all its crudity, its inelegance, its ineffectuality and its complete lack of originality, is, when acquired, destined to be ranked among the artist's accomplishments.

This imported barbaresco nonscript is first nursed by a few young-lady representatives of the first families, and afterward dandified by others of the same station in life, and thus it became *exclusive*, and was pronounced "tony," "nobby," "just lovely," "too pretty for anything," etc., etc., etc. An experience of several years, however, has furnished other specialities, where this hand is the prevailing one, convinces me that it is not its totness, its nobbiness, its loveliness, its too-pretty-for-anythingness, that causes the infatuation, but its exclusiveness, and that only.

I interview parties peculiarly interested in the introduction of this system (properly speaking, absence of system) of writing, and they affirm that "being formed upon the principle of the angle instead of the ellipse, it can be written with far greater degree of ease and rapidity than the oval hand." Now the teacher of penmanship is aware that the most difficult thing for himself to acquire, or to impart to others is ability to make straight lines. And we do not forget the straight line made by Appleby, which, although drawn more than two centuries and years ago, still keeps his name bright on history's page, when nearly all eyes concerning him has long since been forgotten. And not only are most pupils naturally disposed to make curved lines instead of straight, but also to make those curves of greater breadth than is found in any modern engraved models of practical writing. And in regard to rapidity of execution being in favor of the angular hand, it is sufficient answer that if he so, there necessarily results a greater loss of legibility than gain in rapidity. And the lady or gentleman who can write one hundred words in three minutes and "make nothing of it," would do well to take double the time and make something of it by writing legibly; for, I hold it morally wrong for one person to gain time by rapid unintelligible writing, when it shall require unnecessary loss of time to the person for whom such writing was intended. But it is utterly unnecessary to enter into an extended argument to prove that legibility or ease of execution are not on the side of angular writing as doubtless the facts are already convinced.

Another element of good writing, not to some extent a certain degree of attention is not found to any alarming extent in the

handwriting under consideration. I refer to beauty of form. Of course in writing, viewed solely as a means of conveying intelligence, this element is of minor importance and should not be permitted to appear, if in any measure it may interfere with any of the essentials of practical writing. But will it interfere with the progress of a pupil to give a model for imitation, possessing this characteristic? The experience of many of my readers will warrant a negative answer. They will remember practicing after copies set by teachers with no qualification for the work, and subsequently after the beautiful models of a master, and they do not forget it was easier to imitate the latter than the former. The mind and hand are instinctively drawn toward beauty, and although the mind is its ideal, my fall short of absolute perfection in detail, and the hand is faulty in its portrayal of the mental conception, yet the tendency of all unbiased practice is toward beauty and excellence.

Should we look ahead, outside the sphere of penmanship, we note that the highest ideals of beauty of form are not found in straight lines or their union at any angle, but in curved lines. Examine the scrolls of the artist, the work of the artificer in ancient or modern times in proof of this assertion. Yea, let us look higher for authority. Throughout the whole realm of nature we see a preference shown to curved lines. Our earth in its entirety, its animate and inanimate objects, the heavenly bodies and the paths through which they move are all examples of curved lines. Where, then, may we find a plausible reason for adopting the English angular hand, and where may we find its precedent. We have gazed with rapture upon the countless worlds, ever moving on in limitless space, we have looked upon earth and its myriad objects, have studied the works of earth's gifted sons and daughters, and yet we find no suggestion of such a hand. *Can it have originated below?*

Most of the young ladies who drift to angular writing have previously learned to write a fairly hand, that is to say, a legible hand not wholly devoid of beauty, and the course pursued by their teacher in awarding prizes for improvement has been amusing. It is, briefly, this: At the beginning of the year each pupil writes a specimen of her penmanship, and at the close, another. Now it not unfrequently happens that some of the first specimens pass real merit, and this must of course be eliminated in order to attain to excellence in the *exclusive* hand, and in proportion to the sacrifice of merit so is the premium awarded, the larger the sacrifice the larger the premium.

When square mouths, zigzag noses, straight hair, heads acute angles, trunks pyramidal, and limbs elongated parallel-pipedous are thought "just lovely," then will have arrived at all its glory the millennium of angularity, and then would I feelingly sing.

"I would not live slony
I ask not to stay."

PENSPOOK.

Business Brevery.

The following, said to be from the commercial column of a western paper, purports to be the reply of a New Yorker to the preceptor of his son, who wrote to ask his preference in the prescribed course of his studies.

"WALL STREET, NEW YORK."

"December 1, 1877.
"Sir: Yours to bid 'n' con't's note. Don't want my son to study str'ns 'n' my. Two'n' pay. No ships run'n' to str'n, and no prospect of it. All boss, it 'twent help trade. Also, stop Latin & Greek. Boy'll pick up such Latin & Greek a petti-burency & diploma tremens. A. A. some 'tough' but I Gold 'n' silver. I'm bullish on 'tation' & sp'n and T's. I'm stock in Gr'm's too, but I can make money 'tough without L'n and G's, etc. No use. I'm mean! S'b's Eze's, Chan' Com',

etc. Debolls Arithmetic is short of stock terms.

Put my boy through on margins, corners, Dr. Cr., et. pr. et. c's house, Railroads, and Gov't's yourself and go short on y'r Grk and L'n's, etc. etc. Their best and worst for the str'ct—always in dead 'n' hers. I mean Dr. Cr., et. c. When term ends please ship boy & E's by N. Y. C. or H. R. k. with B's L'dg in hat, con't'n to ——— B'd st. Draw sh't d't for bill. Money easy—y'all & short isn't d't sell. Shall I get you a book on 100 L'n. S., at 677? Boy's tuition do for margin.

En'age Eze's. Yours etc."

Writing and Printing Inks.

In our last number we published a very interesting and most reliable article on ink and writing materials, and that the train of thought thus started might be continued we have taken some pains in looking up the subject of inks. Prior to the discovery of writing or printing inks, purely mechanical methods of writing were necessary, of which the hieroglyphics found on Egyptian obelisks, temples and other monuments, and the engraved plates of lead, bronze and iron used by the ancients, are some of the earliest examples. The Chinese first used ink in the sticky, viscid juice from a wounded tree, but this, on account of hardening soon after being collected, was replaced by the melleuginous juice of plants mixed with some mineral dust. During the third century lampblack was ground up with glue or gelatine made from the skin of the buffalo or the swimming bladders of large fish until it formed a thick paste of a homogeneous character, and it was separated into little cakes and dried. Very little is definitely known of the composition of the inks used by the ancients, but it is generally considered that the use of the stygium indicates also the use of carbon ink, not unlike, probably, the China or Indian ink, which is still the almost exclusive stramental substance used among the Chinese and other Asiatic people. The use of iron salts is certainly very ancient. Pliny, however, informs us that the ancients wrote evidence, however, that carbon in the form of lampblack was the essential constituent of ancient inks. There were three epochs in Europe and adjoining countries of this art.

First. Papyrus, about two thousand years before the Christian era, with carbon ink, such as was used in Egypt and India.

Second. Parchment, with ink made by boiling down the less of wine.

Third. Paper, with nutgalls and iron salts as a writing fluid.

Ink in those days was manufactured as at present from crushed nutgalls with a salt of iron, generally a sulphate of iron, and water substituted for nutgalls, and for the colors different dyestuffs.

In the seventeenth century cochineal, carmine and Brazil wood were used.

In the eighteenth century blue ink was known from Prussian blue, which had been known before as a pigment and dye.

In 1860 the modern ink for printers were applied in this art, and ink may be made of almost any desired color, and the variety, richness and permanency of colored inks have been greatly increased by their application. The brilliant violet ink is a sample of this class.

In 1874 the most valuable of these came into notice, the soluble aniline black, which is portable ink, water being added to the dry powder when the ink is required.

Copying inks are only common inks concentrated, with the addition of more gum or sugar, or a portion of glycerine.

Synthetic inks are those fluids which when used to write upon paper are invisible until brought out by the heat or the influence of some chemical agent. Tannin leaves no sign of writing until brushed over with a solution of iron. The juice of certain trees, which is sticky enough to hold fine lamp-black when sifted over the writing. Even milk (mentioned by Ovid) will develop visible characters by heating the paper, or even by drawing it over with some dark powder.

In 1853 litharge (oxide of lead) dissolved in vinegar was used, which, when moistened with a solution of lime and copra, boiled together, became apparent.

The metal cobalt is remarkable for the fine bluish-green tint it develops on paper written with a solution of its chloride, while the acetate of cobalt develops pink when held to the fire. These all, however, leave some trace on the paper, so that a close inspection will show the writing, at least in part.

In India a vegetable juice is used as an indelible ink, and in the cloths of mummies examined in London the marks were thought to have been produced by the nitrate of silver, the article which we use now, the introduction of which into England took place in 1810 to 1820. The last form of indelible ink—analine black, formed on the surface of the cloth—became known in 1867.

About the close of the seventh century printing commenced in China. This necessitated a change in the inks, the watery solution spreading over the paper. To obviate this evil an ink was made by mixing the lampblack with a drying oil instead of thickened water. The art came into Europe in the fifteenth century.

The early printers used charcoal and chalk, and later little rods of alloy of tin and lead for outlining, but it was not until 1565 that the modern lithographic process, made of the plumbago or graphite, from the Cumberland mines in England, came in use. In 1795 this article was first ground and moulded into regular forms. In 1844 solid blocks were formed of this powder by moistening and pressure, which were afterwards cut into the requisite strips for pencils. *—Geyer's Stationer.*

The Metric System Illustrated.

The following example will show the immense advantage of the metric system over the old, in all calculations. Let us assume that the centimeter corresponds to our inch, while the myriameter is equal to about 6.2 of our miles. Reduce 1264385 centimeters to myriameters. Now since each denomination contains ten of the next lower, all we have to do is to point off successively one figure for each denomination (equivalent to dividing by ten), thus:

1,26,438,5 equals to

1 myriameter, 2 kilometers, 6 hectometers, 4 dekameters, 3 meters, 4 decimeters, and 5 centimeters, or equal to 1.264385 myriameters.

Now, put in contrast with this brief and simple operation, the process necessary in a corresponding reduction under the system now in use. Reduce 1264385 inches to miles.

Operation.

12/1264385

3/390032 plus 1 inch.

54/39010 plus 2 feet.

100/4547 plus 14 yards.

8162 plus 27 rods.

20 plus 3 furlongs

20 miles, 3 furlongs, 27 rods, 14 yards, 2 feet, and 1 inch.—*Answer.*

To complete the illustration, let us reverse the problem. It is required to reduce 1 myriameter, 2 kilometers, 6 hectometers, 4 dekameters, 3 meters, 4 decimeters, and 5 centimeters to centimeters. The operation is performed by simply setting down these numbers in their order, thus:

1264385 centimeters.—*Answer.*

Reduce 20 miles, 3 furlongs, 27 rods, 14 yards, 2 feet, and 1 inch to inches. The operation under the present system is as follows:

m. f. r. rd. ft. in.

20 3 27 14 2 1

8

163

40

6347

54

39010

3

100302

12

1264385 inches.—*Answer.*

With such a comparison of the two systems before us there can be no doubt which has the advantage in facility and brevity.—*Educational News Gleaner.*



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D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor,
205 Broadway, New York.

Single copies of Journal sent on receipt of ten cents. Specimen copies furnished to Agents free.

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1 month, 5 cents. 3 months, \$1.00.
1 column, \$1.00. 10 columns, \$10.00.
1/2 column, 50 cents. 10 columns, \$5.00.
1/4 column, 25 cents. 10 columns, \$2.50.
1 inch (12 lines), 1.00. 12 lines, 1.00.
3 lines, 24 words, 45 cents. 25 words, 45 cents.

Advertisements for one and three months, payable in advance, for six months and one year, payable quarterly in advance. No deviation from the above rates. Reading matter, 2 cents per line.

LIBERAL INDUCEMENTS.

We hope to make the Journal so interesting and attractive that no penman or teacher who sees it can withhold either his subscription or a good word; but we want them to do more even than that, we desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, we therefore offer the following:

PUE RIZES.

For every subscriber, until further notice, we will send a copy of the John D. Williams' masterpiece, 12x16 inches in size.

To all persons sending their own and another name as subscribers, including \$2, we will send to each the Journal one year, and forward by return of mail quarterly, a copy of each of the following publications, each of which are among the finest specimens of penmanship ever published, viz.:

The Continental Penman of Progress, 20x28 in. in size
The Lord's Prayer, 18x22 in. in size
The Marriage Certificate, 18x22 in. in size
The Penman's Art Journal, 18x22 in. in size
8 specimens of penmanship over 32x124 in.
or 120 beautiful scrolls in 12 different designs.

For three names and \$3 we will forward the large Continental Penman, size 28x40 inches, retail for \$2. For six names and \$6 we will forward a copy of Williams & Packard's code, retail for \$2.50.

For twelve subscribers and \$12, we will send a copy of Ames' Compendium of Transcendental Penmanship, price \$5. The same bundle in gift will be sent for eighteen subscribers and \$18, price \$7.50.

For twelve names and \$12, we will forward a copy of Williams & Packard's Code of Penmanship, retail for \$5.

All communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, should be addressed to the office of publication, 205 Broadway, New York.

The Journal will be issued as nearly as possible on the first of each month. Matter designed for insertion will be received until the first of the month.

Remittances should be by post-office order or by registered letter. Money inclosed in letter is not sent at our risk. Address

PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL,

205 Broadway, New York.

Give your name and address very distinctly.

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1878.

The September Number

Of the Journal will be one of unusual interest and importance to all its readers, as it will contain a report of the proceedings of the Penmen's Convention, to be held at Packard's College Hall, New York, beginning August 6th. Addresses and essays are promised from a very large number of the most able and prominent teachers and authors, not only in every department of penmanship, but in all the commercial branches. To those who cannot attend the convention the JOURNAL will be invaluable; to those who do attend it will be of scarcely less value, as an aid to preserve, by refreshing their memory, regarding the many good things which will be heard there, too numerous to be all treasured even in the most spacious store-house of the mind. We trust, however, that the anticipation of reading such a report as we can give, doing our best, will not warrant the absence of a single person who is entitled by the terms of the notice and invitation to be present, for were they to read in the JOURNAL every word uttered during the convention, they would come far short of receiving the full spirit and advantage that, it is to be hoped, will be derived by every one present, viz., a personal acquaintance and establishing a spirit of unity, a feeling of mutual and brotherly respect and sympathy which has not hitherto existed among teachers of writing and representatives of business colleges and of students that it has in most other professions. In fact there seems to have existed

rather an unpleasant and hostile antagonism. We cannot give any reason why this should be more than among other teachers and institutions—certainly, the higher the plain occupied the greater the aggregate respect and esteem commanded on the part of teachers of writing and business colleges, the more liberal will be the patronage and honor bestowed by a well-served and appreciative public. This can be accomplished only by united, earnest and conscientious effort upon the part of all engaged in these occupations, not only to individually acquire themselves honorably on all occasions, but to see that no worthy capable fellow teacher suffers unjust reproach, or even fails to get due credit at their hands.

The Convention.

We feel that we cannot urge too strongly upon the attention of all parties interested, the very great importance of attending the convention of teachers of writing and other commercial branches, on August 6, at Packard's Business College. Many communications have been received from those who ought to attend, saying that as they expected to see all matters of interest of the occasion. We feel assured beyond a doubt, that there will be no lack of able speakers and writers, and a goodly number of the live working teachers will be present, but the more merrier. Besides no report can possibly be given that will convey the real spirit and inspiration to be derived from being present. Again, we repeat that no thinking, working teacher can afford to be absent; come if you have to borrow the money to pay expenses, it will be a good investment.

EXPERIENCE teaches many unpleasant lessons; one that it has taught us is that as a rule it is unsafe to send the JOURNAL or other article of value to parties who send orders on postal-cards, or otherwise, with fair promises unaccompanied by the cash. Having taken that lesson, we hereby announce that hereafter no notice whatever will be taken of orders for merchandise, advertising, or subscriptions to the JOURNAL unaccompanied by the cash.

Payson's German Copy Books.

PUBLISHED BY POTTER, ANSON & CO., NEW YORK.

We have taken great pleasure in examining this new writing series by one of the authors of Payson, Dutton & Scribner's popular system of penmanship.

A concise and comprehensive course is comprised in five books only. The artistic character of the copies, and the superiority of the engraving, are especially noticeable. The grading is methodical, rapid and progressive, adapting the system for use in the school or college of the country. One only needs to examine these books, to see what method has accomplished in German penmanship. The author's careful analysis and classification of these strongly characteristic German letters has made it an easy task to learn to write them. An attractive chart of the alphabet, presenting the standard and current styles of letters, and illustrating the analysis and classification forms the central design on the covers.

This is accompanied by a condensed and thorough explanation of the letters in both German and English.

The higher numbers include a fine practice on the characteristic combinations of the language, extracts from standard German authors, and a complete business

drill-book. It has been the evident aim of the author to present a business style of German penmanship.

The greatest simplicity and uniformity are present in the lower books of the series, while in the book of commercial forms a great variety of current styles is introduced. The spirit and beauty of the German writing are finely brought out, and will be appreciated by penmen. At a school series, this work is of standard value, and will strongly commend itself to educators.

Appleton's New Department in Writing Books.

It will be observed by an advertisement in another column that Messrs. Appleton & Co. are publishing a new series of writing-books, the copies for which are arranged upon an essentially new plan, and which we think commendable. The copies, instead of being printed at the top of each page are upon separate and movable slips, which enables the learner to move his copy down the page to follow and conceal his lines of practice. This is a course we have long practised and advocated. The copies are systematic, well graded, and finely engraved. The system and method cannot fail of becoming popular, and being extensively used.

Book Slates for Use in Schools.

The N. Y. Silhouette Book Slate Co. are now manufacturing for use in schools the most unique, convenient, and useful book-slates we have ever examined. Each slate contains eight marking pages, 4x7 inches, equal to a 9x14 stone slate; two pages being ruled for writing and spelling exercises. This slate is conveniently carried inside any ordinary school book. They have only to be seen to be desired. For students of book-keeping in business colleges and elsewhere, these slates would be peculiarly useful. See advertisement in another column.

Spencer Revised.

We invite attention to an advertisement of the house of Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co., on another page, announcing as ready for sale the revised series of the popular Spencerian copy-books. These books we have examined, and find them all that could be desired for copy-books by any teacher of writing. In system, gradation, perfection of letters, graceful combinations, and engraving they are perfect.

Bryant's New Series of Book-keeping.

All teachers of book-keeping, and accountants, wishing practical and interesting guides to the science and mystery of book-keeping should read Mr. Bryant's advertisement in another column.

All Persons attending the Convention.

Are respectfully invited to visit our office, at 205 Broadway, and examine the very large collection of penmanship there on exhibition.

Business College Items.

French's College Journal, Boston, Mass., is received. It is a well edited, well printed, and a very readable sheet.

Joe Fowler, Jr., Ashland, Pa., sends a photograph of a very skillfully designed and executed Family Record.

We are indebted to Mr. James S. Waring, of Piermont, N. Y., for a Photo-lithograph copy of a set of resolutions recently engraved by him. The design is skillful and in good taste, and the execution very creditable.

McCreary & Shields, proprietors of the Utica, N. Y. Business College, announce through our advertising columns the establishment of a Penman's Art School in connection with their college. This new department will be conducted by Prof. H. W. Kibbe, who is widely and favorably known as a very skillful and accomplished

penman. Few penmen in our circle of acquaintance are better qualified to conduct such a school than Prof. Kibbe. A fine specimen engraved in *fac-simile* from his flourishing is given on the 5th page of this Journal.

The Jacksonville, Ill., Business College Journal, for 1878, is received. It is a model of good taste and neatness. The college is reported by the Jacksonville Journal as in a most prosperous condition, 286 students having been enrolled during the past year.

C. E. Cady has become the sole proprietor of the Cady, Wilcox and Walworth Business College, on 11th University Place, this city. Mr. Cady has won an enviable reputation among those who know him as an earnest, conscientious and competent instructor. If his success is commensurate with his own merit, it will be ample.

The September number of the Journal as a medium of advertising.

Owing to the report of the convention which will be published as full as is practical in the September number of the Journal, we shall print and circulate a large extra and special edition, which will render it exceptionally valuable as a medium of advertising. Copy should be in our hands as early as the 20th, and cannot be received later than the 25th inst. See terms in first column of the 4th page; no deviations will be made either in price or terms of payment.

Messrs. Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co., 138 and 140 Grand street, extend a cordial invitation to teachers and others in attendance upon the Penmen's Convention to call and examine their centennial exhibit of Spencerian penmanship.

Renewal of Subscriptions.

Subscribers who desire to continue to receive the Journal, should not fail to renew their subscriptions, as the Journal will in all cases be discontinued at the end of the period for which the subscription is paid.

Obituary.

Harvey G. Eastman, proprietor of the Eastman Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., died at Denver, Col., June 13th.

Back Numbers

of the JOURNAL can be supplied, beginning with No. 6. No prior number can be furnished.



J. H. Crosse, Memphis, N. Y., encloses in a gracefully written letter several specimens of card writing.

A handsomely written letter has been received and placed in our scrap-book from R. S. Bon-ah, Salem, Ohio.

Charles D. Bigelow, Springfield, N. Y., sends a gem of hand-drawn flourishing, and several elegantly-written cards.

E. F. Holley, Forestville, Conn., sends a variety of specimens of plain and ornamental card writing which are well executed.

F. M. Johnson, a pupil at the Gen City Business College, Quincy, Ill., sends with his subscription to the JOURNAL a fine collection of card writing.

F. R. Hardin, Union Star, Ky., sends a gracefully written letter and encloses several specimens of off-hand flourishing which are skillfully executed.

A. N. Palmer, a pupil at Gaskell's Business College, Manchester, N. H., sends some very creditable specimens of penmanship, and some good practical writing.

We have received from the Utica, N. Y. Business College a very elegant specimen of penmanship engraved in *fac-simile* from the pen work of H. W. Kibbe. It is well designed and superbly executed. The original pen-work, however, greatly excels the lithographic copy.



E. L. Burnett, formerly of Elmira, N. Y., is now teaching penmanship at the LaCrosse, Wis., Business College. He favors to with several specimens of his flourishing and writing, which are not often excelled.

F. B. Smith, formerly teacher of penmanship at the Rochester Business University, has since the 1st of June been engaged in Sader's Business College, Baltimore, Md. Professor Smith is an accomplished penman and a successful teacher.

Frank Tryon, the celebrated drummer-boy of Fort Hudson, who has attained considerable and wide-spread prominence as a penman, especially in New York and vicinity, is now connected with University Model College, Cal., in which he has charge of the writing and dictation departments.

Answers to



M. M. H., Portland, Oregon.—Your writing is very good; it wants uniformity, and you lack freedom of movement. You should exercise considerably on the fore-arm movement.

E. B., Stockton, Cal.—You write in easy, legible hand. Your most conspicuous fault is in your too straight connecting lines and rounded open turns at the bottom of your n's and a's, which give your writing a loose, unfledged appearance.

not shorthand (phonography) have an injurious effect on a person's longhand?—Critique. Answer.—I. Probably A. S. Manson, of Boston, Mass. has the largest collection of works upon penmanship; the number we do not know. 2. It is impossible to fix any definite time, as it must vary greatly according to ability, industry, and other circumstances of the pupil; one should not consider himself qualified until he can not only write a good hand, but readily analyze all the letters, and should be a good critic of form to enable him promptly and surely to point out the precise point of failure on the part of his pupil. 3 and 4. We cannot answer. 5. Yes; we think it hardly possible for a person to be a rapid shorthand and skillful longhand writer at the same time.

Letter from Prof. Packard.

To the Editor of the Penman's Art Journal.

DEAR SIR.—It gratifies me to know, from the report of the committee, that the long-talked-of "Penman's Convention," is *in passe*, and will soon be *in esse*. I have somehow felt, from the beginning, that this would be so, and my impression has come from the strong sense I have had of the necessity, to say nothing of the importance of such a gathering. It was inevitable that at some time not far in the distance the workers in our specialty should come together. Aside from any interest I may have had in the decision of the committee, I have felt also, that the appropriate place for such a meeting was in this city, and the best time, that upon which the committee has agreed. Of course, the month of August is not, in many respects, the most au-

thority lives, and report at headquarters, but who could have predicted that such eminent pioneers as R. M. Barratt, of Cincinnati, JONATHAN JONES, of St. Louis, ISA MATTHEW, of Detroit, and others of that order, would see so clearly what we saw, but did not dare to express, that without them the convention could not be, in the largest sense, a success. And when to this list are added such live contemporaries as Robert and Henry Spencer, E. G. Folson and J. C. Bryant, there seems nothing farther to be said. It will indeed, be a treat which the younger members of our profession could hardly have hoped for to meet in council, the *very men*, who gave the first impetus to what has grown to be one of the most vital and far reaching among our educational specialties.

The opportunity is one that may never again occur, and whoever misses it, from mere indifference, will have cause for lasting regret.

So far as I am individually concerned, I desire to thank the committee for accepting my offer of accommodations, and to assure those who may need the assurance that I will gladly do all within my power to vindicate the choice.

The gratification I feel is sincere, and the assurance within me that the results of the gathering will more than justify the impulse which has called it into being, is too strong to find expression.

Very truly yours,

S. S. PACKARD.

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Buffalo, N. Y.

G. G., Lexington, Mo.—You write a very good hand for business. Your capitals are too large, and the loop letters too long; you evidently have a good movement, and with careful study and practice of writing you can become a very good writer.

T. E. P., Paterson, N. J.—Your writing is correct in form, very legible, but is lacking in grace and ease of movement. I judge that you are principally the finger movement; you should practice the fore-arm or ulnar movement, and drill considerably in exercises for movement.

S. M. C., Moberg, Ill.—You evidently have the basis for a superior style of writing—a good movement and tolerably well-formed letters. Your writing is too angular, and the connecting lines too straight. With proper instruction and care on your part in practice you could not fail of becoming an accomplished writer.

1. Who has the largest library of works on penmanship, and how many volumes does it contain? 2. How much time, according to your estimation, should be spent in preparing to teach penmanship? By this I mean the time used in practice and study on penmanship. 3. Who is most proficient at blackboard work? 4. Who is the most rapid penman, and what is his speed? 5. Does

specious season for sojourning in a metropolitan city; but in respect to comfort, during the "hated term," I doubt if any city in this country can hold out such inducements as can New York; and I am very sure that nowhere in this city or elsewhere can there be found better ventilated or more comfortable rooms than those upon which the committee has settled. Besides, at no season of the year would there be an equal chance to secure the attendance of representative teachers. For be it understood, that at last, even Business Colleges are beginning to follow the abrogation of "perpetual scholarships," by the equally sensible abrogation of "perpetual sessions."

The responses which my committee have received, much as I felt the importance and predicted the success of the movement, have taken me by surprise. I expected, of course, that the young and active workers in the ranks would collect their dues, gather up the credentials of

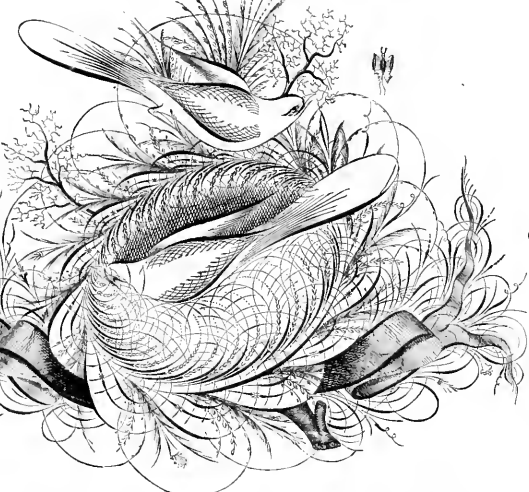
The Journal as a Medium of Advertising.

The present large circulation of the JOURNAL, teaching, as it does, a very large majority of all the teachers of writing and book-keeping in the country, renders it a most effective medium for advertising books, merchandise and materials desired in those professions.

Teachers seeking situations, and persons desiring to employ teachers will find the columns of the JOURNAL an effective medium.

The fact that no advertisement met in line with the objects of the JOURNAL is solicited, and quite a limited number of others are desired, renders it doubly valuable to the few who do advertise.

The September number of the JOURNAL will be one of unusual interest and attractiveness; it will alone be worth the price of a year's subscription. Specimen copies sent on receipt of 10c; no copies will be sent free, so save your postal cards.



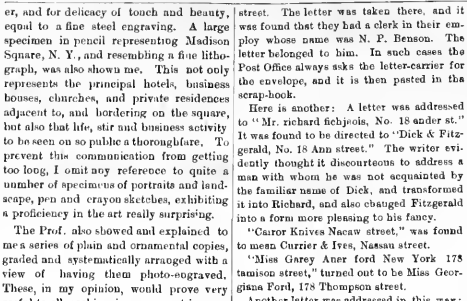
BY PROF. R. RUSSELL.

teacher of penmanship that nothing is more fatal to securing a good hand-writing than this reckless impatience. "Add of nothing, is that trite old maxim, 'that haste makes waste,'" more literally true than of persons who appear to secure a good hand-writing in a few lessons upon the "Lightning Calculators" principle.

While it is true that we live in an age of steam and electricity, and that the age demands rapid penmanship, it is also true that the age demands a good penmanship, that the illegible scrawls that are constantly emanating from persons whose training in youth, in this particular, has been grievously neglected. The truth of the matter is, that, *the age does not demand anything from anybody but what they owe to itself.* And one of the *first* grand essentials of good writing is a thorough long-continued, persistent practice upon the principles and the various movements. They are to penmanship what a good permanent foundation is to a building. Nothing would succeed with my class than to look well to a most systematic practice upon these fundamental elements, however much they might despise it. Among the thousands of pupils that I have taught, I have, in contradistinction, I have never known one who persevered in his practice on the foundation elements, but what made a passable penman, while those who shirked and could not be made to give proper attention were almost invariably poor penmen.

For the Penman's Art Journal.

Prof. M. had the kindness to show me quite a number of samples of his own pen, pencil, and crayon drawing, which are truly marvellous specimens of art. Upwards of 90 square feet of crayon drawings (such black surface is a novelty, I believe, in the art of drawing). "You are welcome," is executed after D. D. is the most interesting lettering, drawing and flourishing. It presents Pa. Coat of Arms, beautifully embellished with lettering and flourishing. life-size antelope (also in crayon) exhibits wonderful skill to animal drawing; also antelope with pen and ink, as large as life, is surprisingly natural and beautiful. Test, with a large spread eagle, show superior skill in pen and flourishing. Another charming specimen of pen and ink is the master of craft. Prof. M. was the one, I allude to "Sweet Home," being a *fascimile* of the piece found in Williams & Packard's Gems, though somewhat large.



When I first saw Williams & Packard's
engines, I could not persuade myself that the
open, unassisted by the graver to rectify de-
fects, could produce such beautiful concep-
tions as those contained in that work, but
since I had the pleasure of examining Prof.
Miller's productions, I am convinced of my
error.

W. H. S.


Another letter was addressed in this way: "New York City, New York State of the U. S. to the eDitor J. Douglass the eDiter AND proprietor." The ingenuity of the clerks and officials exerted itself for a long while until some one suggested that it might mean J. Dougall, the editor of the *Witness*. And so it did.

A missive was sent to "Mrs. McGowan, 46 4side street." This being interpreted meant 46 Forsyth street.

"Miss Lizzie Primrose No. 33 North 12th Corner Gimmour old house is taken already."

Besides these are numerous other quaint addresses in the scrap-book, and hundreds like them are received daily. It is remarkable that the officials in the Post Office succeed in bringing most of them to their proper addresses. Such as the three last-mentioned are of course undeliverable, and are sent to the Dead Letter Office, where in course of time they are destroyed.—*N. Y. Express.*

The Perfected Type Writer,
 Advertised by Messrs. Fairbanks & Co., in
 another column, is one of the most useful
 as it is fast becoming most popular inven-
 tions of the age. The Rev. Lyman Ab-
 bott says: "What a sewing machine is to
 the wife, the type-writer is to the husband
 —married, they make a happy couple, and
 a well furnished household."



President of Soule's Bryant & Stratton,
Business College, Philadelphia, and is one
of the most accomplished and skillful
writers and teachers in the country.

George W. Colburn, Son,
Fire Insurance,
Lowell,
41 1/2 Merrimack St
Miss!

A letter was received at the Post Office addressed to "N. P. Benson, 307, 309, and 311, N. Y." The letter wandered from one station to another until a station-master recollected that the firm of Whitfield, Powers & Co., occupied Nos. 307, 309, and 311 Canal

Here are some superscriptions which would lead one to think that the senders of the let-

Salem, Ohio, is a very graceful writer and experienced teacher. See his card below.

FOR SALE—A COMMERCIAL COLLEGE that has been established for 12 years in a city of 20,000 inhabitants, with no opposition; very cheap; part cash, balance on long time. This institution has cleared for its proprietor in years of \$12,000 during the past twelve years; the proprietor having a large amount of other business to attend to, is the reason for selling. To a young man with small capital and who is not afraid to work, this is a splendid chance. Address THOMAS D. AMES, 205 Broadway, N.Y. 5-11

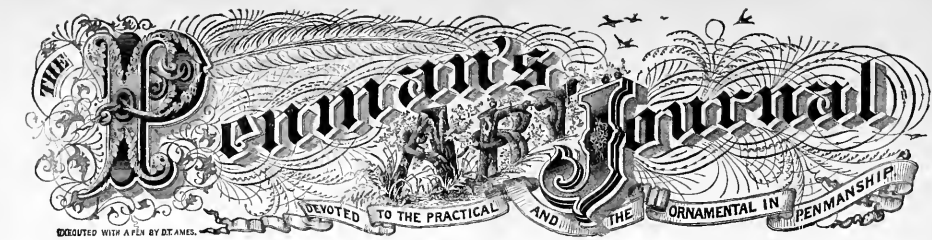
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Madaraez, "The Champion Muscular Movement Penman," still sends his unexcelled written cards for 36c. Circulars and samples
FREE! FREE!! FREE!!!



Published Monthly, at 205 Broadway, for \$1.00 per Year.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1878.

VOL. II. NO. 6.

D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor.
B. F. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

Cards of Penmen and Business Colleges, occupying three lines of space, will be inserted in this column for \$2.00 per year.

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CADY'S BUSINESS COLLEGE,

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Business Education.

ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY THOMAS MAY PRIZES
OF PHILADELPHIA, BEFORE A CONVEN-
TION OF COMMERCIAL TEACHERS AND
PENMEN, HELD AT NEW YORK,
AUGUST 6, 1878.

Whatever may be the idea of a student in studying a subject, whether his efforts are suggested by caprice, or are made in obedience to a directly laid general plan, and without respect to the subject studied, two results are secured—the one special, the other general. Not only does he possess himself of the particular special information upon which he labors, but beyond this the mere performance of the mental labor implied in the effort of studying, generates mental vigor. The study of all subjects will alike yield the first result, that is, possession of the special information sought, but with regard to the second, what all will secure it in some degree others will secure a still more healthful and effective discipline of the mind than others.

The value of a study must, however, be measured conjointly by both results. By the first to ascertain the dollar and cent value of the information itself and by the last to determine the mental vigor and discipline communicated in the effort by the effort.

This measurement is nevertheless qualified by a consideration not yet referred to, which cannot be safely omitted, whose situation, though not direct, is diffused so considerably as to be important, that of estimating what is contributed by a subject to one's general usefulness. The bounds of such an occasion as the present are too confined to permit the detailed measurement of every branch even of an ordinary common school education, and we shall be compelled to content ourselves with the application of the measures of value here established to one or two of the most familiar subjects of teaching.

Take, for instance, the study of writing. Measure it by the value of the information or ability acquired by a diligent and intelligent seeking of such information and it ranks among the most valuable of studies for all, of itself, and by itself, constitutes a means of livelihood, yet so far as the second result is concerned, that of securing a useful discipline, it is scarcely to be named, the degree

of advantage in that particular being so low. Yet it again rises in importance when its effect upon the general usefulness of a person is contemplated, for who of the worst writers among an intelligent audience will not allow that to write well is no inconsiderable accomplishment. The subject of Grammar, on the contrary, when measured by the business value of the information secured is inconsiderable, for without it fortunes are made and with it, fortunes are lost and conditions of poverty are continued. The trader is understood when he offers his wares cheaply, though the offer may be couched in ungrammatical language, whilst the collegiately educated merchant is fully impressed with the honesty of the customer without knowing the King's English may be murdered in the language accompanying the cash. But when we consider the mental discipline secured by its study, and the general intelligence resulting therefrom, grammar deserves taxes very high indeed. Until recently all our educational plans and systems have regarded subjects with regard to their effect on the mind and their influence upon the general intelligence of the student to the exclusion of an examination of the dollar and cent value of the information itself. Now the tendency of the age is to consider every branch of education in this light without losing sight of its value on other respects. The popular error is in the right direction but goes too far.

If it is to be an engineer he can well afford to drop Latin and Greek, for his work Geometry and Algebra, anatomical drawing for perspective and mechanical drafting; but to enable him successfully to prosecute such studies as will fit him to be an engineer, or to practice that calling with credit, an amount of general education must first be possessed which will at least place him upon the plane of the average general intelligence of society, and his mind must have been so disciplined by studies whose effect is powerful in that direction, as to enable him to prosecute effectively the special studies necessary for his profession. When an education results from such principles its possessor is not only generally educated and specially fitted for some established calling of life, but he also has that very desirable information of *knowing how to study any new matter*, which fancy or interest may suggest, for "knowledge is orderly, all parts materially supporting and lying in the mind in the natural order, so that they all become united into a solid whole, easily remembered and easily applied." I do not know but that I am prepared to claim that man as the best educated whose mind is best disciplined without reference to the bulk of the information possessed. I can at least claim him to be the best capacitated for teaching.

The thoughts here presented have been suggested by a close observation of the waste of our communities and a thorough personal identification with widely different educational systems, and I will now summarily state them.

Let our children receive, say the old system, a general stock of information made up of all branches, and continue this at least until they have reached the plane of the average general intelligence of society, then, commencing with the tendencies of the day, let us form some general idea of the means of livelihood which the child is adapted to or will follow at the age of maturity, and build

upon the foundation of general intelligence already secured as education specially fitting him for the proposed vocation. Let the prospective lawyer then attend a law school, the prospective physician decide, the future business man attend the Business College.

Business College! What a misnomer that would have seemed to the old school men. How it would have shocked Plato, who pronounced the trade of a shop keeper to be a degradation to a freeman, and wished it punished as a crime. The institutions themselves would probably have been mobbed, among the Boetticians who excluded for ten years from all office in the State those who had defiled themselves with commerce, but now what is more successful or more respectable? The demand for the more learned is decreasing, that for the practical and useful increasing, and the practical and useful are demanded alone, detached from every thing else. And is there not a justification for this popular movement? Using the word utilitarian in its broadest sense as noting anything which in any manner conduces to happiness, we may say in general terms education is improving in proportion as it becomes utilitarian. It is improving in proportion as its readers more fitted to avail themselves of the properties of natural agents in the production of wealth, and at the same time to enjoy a pleasurable and to take care on all the opportunities for promoting their own or others happiness which are presented in life.

Now one of the most important requisites of happiness is to have freedom of choice, not to be forced to uninteresting and distasteful pursuits as essential accompaniments of those which are useful and agreeable. For instance, George will be a chemist, his most important aim then is to study such results of scientific investigation as will enable him to solve the chemical problems which will be presented to him, in his future career. It is a matter of comparatively minor importance to him that the differential of the cosine of an arc begeth the same fraction of the differential of the arc itself, that the cosine of the same arc is the radian, or that in the year 835 Egbert, King of England, defeated the Danes at the battle of Hengston Hill. He may in his hours of leisure and recreation find amusement in facts like these, but the pleasure they produce may justify their acquisition, but apart from gratifying individual peculiarities of taste, they are not likely to be productive to him of any valuable results. Why should he be forced to learn them then? Why should they be included in a course of studies, every part of which he must go through with, if none at all of them will be a merchant, he desires to be, comes acquainted with generally adopted business forms, usages of trade and the peculiarities and distribution of the commodities with which he expects to deal, and he is anxious for opportunities to practice ordinary calculations, so as to become a facile and accurate accountant. Samuel will be a lawyer, he wishes to study the constitution, and usages of courts of law, the growth and present state of the government of his country, and for purposes of comparison, those of other countries. He will be likely to have some influence in reforming or modifying the laws, and therefore he wishes to know what principles eminent thinkers have adopted as the foundations of their systems of jurispru-

dence and to what general end they have tended in their labors and recommendations.

Recognizing the demands of the hour and conforming to them, let the special preparation for a known vocation be made practical in the largest sense, let it, if possible, embrace a drill in the duties of the position itself so that the time spent in securing this special adaptation may be literally an apprenticeship in the work connected with the position. Let the Business College not content itself with teaching book-keeping, to practice which but one of a large number in a store is required, but let there be goods bought and goods sold, let the customs which have grown up in business be taught, not by precept, but place your students where they can do and perform business itself. Comparatively slight would be the advantages of business colleges if a technical knowledge of accounts was all that they furnished. When legitimately managed and fully equipped they yield a business education comprising the manner of transacting business, when, how and what the correct, energetic and careful business man should do in every conceivable variety of position qualified by every sort of circumstance, the legal relations of a merchant to the maker, drawer, and payer of a check, note, or draft, the usage of banks, the obligations of the buyer and seller, all the notifications, but well regulated movements and duties of those who trade, and the most approved method of securing protection from fraud, counterfeit money, etc.

Beyond this they can detach from a course of Business Education such branches as arithmetic, penmanship and letter writing, and by reason of the principle of individual instruction they can in a desirable manner teach those who are deficient therein from whatever untoward circumstance in early life.

That they should be managed as well as taught by professional teachers, in such an audience as this I need not take time to prove—but litigants employ professional lawyers, religionists resort to theologians, the sick seek physicians, that learners should seek professional teachers, are quite truisms here.

That Business Colleges are sometimes managed by business men and some few by adventurers yet, I will not attempt to deny, but an examination of the principle involved in the fact that these colleges are recently devised means for supplying the mercantile community with educated help, and in novelties adventurers are the first to move. They perform the skirmish duty for the business men who attentively observe the points developed, which when satisfied that rationalization is certain to follow, in a business sense, quietly move on and command the situation. Teachers, practical, professional earnest teachers, timely and distrustfully engage in business operations, and well ascertained that it were the legitimacy of the undertaking which the business teacher met, fixed, regular paid salary in favor of the hazards of business. Yet in an educational institution, how necessary that the teacher should be there armed with the absolute power of proprietorship. How emphatically do the interests of students require the generalization which the business teacher met, and the systematic arrangement of the information to be taught which the science of teaching involves.

Writing and Science.

WITTEN FOR THE CONVENTION

A. W. TALCOTT.

[illegible][illegible]

Not so simply like a stone rest,
 Or, only as the world to take a prey,
 Or sliding on the face of things to pass,
 His mission is to rally 'round' his flag
 Those ages to rate way to truth and art,
 In the world's life to be a living part.
 In every mind to form a golden word,
 Might live I 'inspire the cold of many a sage,
 To make the world a better place,
 May bring youth along life's cooling stream,
 To make the world a better place,
 Leave nothing more to speak of when gone,
 But a world that is better than I was.
 Read much what will be written, think and write,
 And let the world be a better place,
 The pen and press shall keep before the world
 The things that are to be a living part,
 Let mind unburdened rove among the stars,
 To make the world a better place,
 While deeds of nature to the mind afford
 The things that are to be a living part,
 Now, hand in hand, in unity we do
 The things that are to be a living part,
 While science as of nature's self the found,
 It is by art that we have our survey,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 The power of science keeps them in their place,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 But who o'er rugged peaks would traverse wide,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 Who gropes alone, uncertain in the dark,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 Now, hand in hand, in unity we do
 The things that are to be a living part,
 A choice of leaders in the field of thought,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 As Newton came, the 'round' road late to tell,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 So Packard, Frosten, Mayrow limply spoke,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 In them we have a guide, a master power,
 The things that are to be a living part,
 The coward, march, proclaim the truth to man,
 The things that are to be a living part,

Methods of Teaching Penmanshi

PROF. J. W. PAYSON

The following is an abstract of the valuable and practical address delivered before the Penman's Convention :

Handwriting is not an accomplishment for the few, but a necessity for all, and hence how it is best taught is a practical issue in practical education. There are four methods of teaching penmanship, which are widely different from each other, and which comprehend all those having any hold on our modern educational system. The first, we shall distinguish as the imitative; the second as the movement; the third, as the natural; and the fourth, as the analytic methods.

The imitative method is not a modern product, but has had a strong force of life. It is the central idea in that writing is a purely imitative act, and that the constant repetition of the same letters will inevitably produce good handwriting. This method is inseparably connected with the native and the school. First, it suppresses all individuality of expression. The second, strong objection to this method is that it calls for no special thought on the part of the pupil, and does not strengthen the habit of working out independent effort. It has no training force. The third objection is that it forms no basis for the development of a sense of comparison, and hence with no adequate guide to the construction of the letter. The fourth objection is that it requires no energy and the improvement of his handwriting requires the vigorous energy of teaching, independent of that demanded in other branches of education. This is the one only objection, however, which is supposed to be of any force. It is supposed that the art of good penmanship is a

hip can be self-taught depending upon imitation rather than instruction, has raised up a large corps of incompetent teachers, to divide an army of uninstructed pupils into the blind acquisition of some sort of handwriting.

[illegible]

We come now to the youngest child of modern thought in penmanship, the natural method. As the child learns to walk, by walking; and to speak, by speaking; hence he should learn to write, by writing. The first spoken words of the child are feeble and incoherent. As he practices his mother-tongue, his articulation improves, and though entirely unconscious of the many processes involved, he learns to speak—he can express his thought. The first written words of the child will be in like manner feeble and illegible, but as he practices the script character, he will learn by degrees to master it, until his will become as natural and easy to write his thoughts as to speak them.

Let us look at the conditions, and see if the same method can be employed in both cases. Speaking does not require the use of a foreign instrument, but only the play of natural organs, and is therefore an almost instinctive process, one that is begun with the first dawn of intelligence, before the child has even learned to walk. On the other hand, writing, on the other hand, demands the use of a wholly foreign instrument and materials, and is, and must be, a second step in education. The child can very easily learn to speak the simple idioms of the language. The elementary processes of speech are executed unconsciously by the child, almost before he is fully conscious. The elementary processes of writing, on the other hand, are very difficult, and require many months of practice, before the child can express from the pen or pencil that is not a voluble and pliant instrument like the tongue, nor is the arbitrary action of the hand at all instinctive. It requires, at the start, and for a long time thereafter, perfectly conscious effort to make these written characters. The pupil must be guided by the pen or for the first part of every letter, and only when these arbitrary processes have become naturalized by practice, that writing becomes the intuitive messenger of thought. The natural method precludes all possibility of a graded and progressive system. The expression of the simplest idea in writing must involve many complicated forms, and the sequence is that the pupil is thrown into deep water before he learns to swim.

The analytic method interprets the science of penmanship, and reduces all its forms to a beautiful symmetry, order, and progressive-ness. The growth and development of the analytic method have waited upon slow and labored processes; its principles, half conceived, have been but *gradually* wrought into fruitful symmetry; but all past effort in penmanship has tended thus gradually but surely towards the modern scientific treatment of the script forms. The analytic method does not elaborate beautiful theory of the alphabet, of no practical value; but it goes back of the unscientific action in producing the letter to the mind, and asks, what is the conception there? Is every part

The first step in the analytic method is to know; the second, to execute. Criticism has also an important function in applying knowledge to practice, and measuring results. Here are the three great educating powers in this art: Knowledge, informing and guiding; Execution, doing the work; and Criticism, pointing backward to error, and forward to progress. The analytic method is not a drowsy one, inviting to ennui. It brings life, light, and energy into penmanship, and stirs up the sleepers. Thought directs practice. Every line is an interpretation of an idea, and the mind thinks out what the hand executes.

At this present time, educational methods must stand the test of experience. No rhetorical theories, if found wanting in practice, can set aside her verdict; among so many conflicting methods, she alone will maintain the educational balance, proving what is weighty.

Renewal of Subscriptions.

Subscribers who desire to continue to receive the JOURNAL should not fail to renew their subscriptions, as the Journal will in all cases be discontinued at the end of the period for which the subscription is paid.



Published Monthly at \$1.00 per Year.

D. T. AMES, Editor and Proprietor,
205 Broadway, New York.

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LITERAL INDENTMENTS.

We hope to make the JOURNAL so interesting and attractive that no penman or teacher who sees it can withhold either his subscription or a good word; and we would then be to do more even than we wish, if we could have his co-operation as correspondents and agents, we therefore offer the following

PREMIUM.

To every new subscriber, or renewal, until further notice, we will send a copy of the *Lord's Prayer*, 1894.

To any person sending their own and another name as subscribers, including \$2.00, we will mail to each one a copy of the *Lord's Prayer* by return of mail to the reader, a copy of either of the following publications, each of which are among the most popular and valuable ever published in the U.S.

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The Centennial Picture, size 10x14 inches, retails for \$1.00	100 00

For three names and \$3 we will forward the large Centennial Picture, size 29x41 inches, retails for \$1.00.

For six names and \$6 we will forward a copy of Williams & Dickerson's *Good*, retails for \$2.50.

For twelve subscribers and \$12, we will send a copy of Ames' *Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship*, price \$5.

The same bound in gilt will be sent for sixteen subscribers and \$16, price \$7.50.

For twelve names and \$12, we will forward a copy of Williams & Dickerson's *Good* of Penmanship, retails for \$5.

All communications designed for THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL should be addressed to the office of publication, 205 Broadway, New York.

The JOURNAL will be delivered as promptly as possible on the first of each month. Matter deferred for insertion must be received on or before the twentieth.

Remittances should be by post-office order or by check to the Editor. Money enclosed in letters is not sent at our risk. Address

PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL.

205 Broadway, New York.
Give your name and address very distinctly.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1878.

The Journal and Business Education.

It will be observed by our report given in another column, of the recent "Penman's Convention," that a permanent organization to be known as the "Business College Teachers and Penmen's Association," was effected, and that a resolution was unanimously passed that the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL be recognized as the official organ of the Association. Now, this does not mean that the JOURNAL, in the future, is to be any the less a penman's paper, but that it will take a more general and active interest in all those subjects which are frequently and justly belonging to practical business education, and which constitute the course of instruction in a well-ordered business college.

At the present time the profession of penmanship can scarcely be said to exist outside and independent of business colleges. There is not one penman in twenty who has not been, or who does not hope at some time to be associated with a business college, while of the great army of skillful clerks and accountants throughout the country, there is a very small percentage who have not acquired their skill in one of these institutions. The modern professor of penmanship who is qualified to teach nothing else, will gain little honor or success; indeed other qualifications are indispensable, their very lack indicate to all sensible persons a fatal defect in the ability, industry or judgment of the single idea professor. We would, therefore, say to all young men who are striving to become skillful writers, do not lose sight

of other qualifications necessary to render its acquisition of value to you.

If you desire to employ it profitably in business, a knowledge of accounts, with correct grammar, and spelling will greatly enhance your opportunity for doing so. If it is your purpose to become a teacher, the ability to instruct in other commercial branches will open scores of desirable positions which would be closed to one who can teach, however skillfully, writing alone. We shall advocate earnestly and to the best of our ability the just claims of all commercial branches, and all meritorious penmen's colleges.

The association which has just been formed, has long been needed, to consolidate and crystallize the cause, and promote the interest of commercial education. Business colleges and their teachers have heretofore failed to command the degree of public confidence and esteem to which they were entitled; largely from the want of united and harmonious effort, to place themselves properly and justly before the public; and perhaps more largely from the fact that a few noisy conceited mountebanks have constantly disgusted the intelligent public with their extravagant and false claims trumpeted abroad through the instrumentality of brass bands, monstrous bragging circulars thrown almost broadcast, and such other multitudinous devices and tricks as had previously been tolerated only by credence and showmen, while the more modest, sensible and genuine workers in the profession, have not been known or appreciated outside of the circle of their patronage. Thus a single mountebank and charlatan, by his greater energy and persistence in thrusting himself before the public, has done more to lower the public estimate of business colleges than scores of conscientious, earnest, capable and successful workers could do for their support and elevation. It is through the instrumentality of the association just formed, which shall bring annually into council the reputable teachers and managers of these institutions, and the medium of the JOURNAL, that this false impression on the part of the public is to be corrected, and business colleges and their teachers attain to their proper and honorable position in the grand educational system of this country.

Penmanship, Books, &c., Exhibited at the Convention.

A large hall adjoining the one in which the convention assembled, was especially arranged for and devoted to the use of parties desirous to exhibit specimens of penmanship, books, charts, or other school supplies.

Among the numerous specimens of penmanship the most conspicuous for their size and excellence, were two specimens of the collection executed by L. P. Spencer and H. W. Flickinger, and exhibited at the centennial by Ivison, Blackman, Taylor & Co. These specimens, for delicacy and accuracy of the work, artistic beauty and perfection of design, have no leavens and perfection of design, have no equal in this country. A fine collection consisting of drawing, writing and flourishing, was exhibited by H. C. Kendall, of Boston. Several large sheets of very skillful lettering and flourishing, executed by H. W. Kibbe of Utica, N. Y., were exhibited by Prof. McCreary, of the Utica Business College. A copy of the *Lord's Prayer*, beautifully written by W. E. Donahue, in large round-hand, was exhibited by H. C. Wright, of Brooklyn. A large sheet of engrossing, executed in attractive style was forwarded for exhibition by John McCarthy, of Washington, D. C. A. R. Dunton, of Boston, exhibited several proof sheets of a new book on writing which he is now preparing for publication; which indicated in their ease, grace and attractive force of letters and combinations, that he still wields a master's pen. Copies of Ames' *Compendium of Practical and Ornamental Penmanship*, together

with several pages of the original pen and ink copy, from which some of the most elaborate pages of the work were printed by lithography; also a large album in which was presented an extensive variety of original pen work, together with photographic copies of engrossing and other miscellaneous work executed by Mr. Ames, was on exhibition. J. H. Barlow, Hudson City, N.J., one of the veterans of this art in New York, exhibited an extensive, rare and interesting collection of ancient works on penmanship. Some of these were between two and three hundred years old, in various languages, French, German, Portuguese, English, &c., and showing the art as practiced by the old masters: such as Seddus, Ayres, Cocker, Ventura, Tompkins, &c. Another object of interest was to be noticed in Mr. Packard's office, by the hand of Mr. Barlow, called "*The American Centennial*." A work of vast labor and exquisite skill, for which a medal and diploma was awarded at the Art Exposition of Philadelphia. But the exhibit which attracted most attention from all present, was a large scrap book, in which was presented all of the attractive letters and specimens, that have been received at the office of the JOURNAL, for notices and comment, since its first publication. Among the books exhibited were a series of text books on book-keeping by J. C. Bryant, of Buffalo, N. Y. A new work, subject by J. W. Ellsworth, New York; J. W. Van Sickle, of Springfield, Ohio, and the Bryant & Stratton series written by S. S. Packard, and published by Ivison, Blackman, Taylor & Co., New York. Of copy books the Spenceian, Payson, Dunton & Scribner, and Ellsworth series were exhibited. An extensive variety of superior black-boarders were presented for use and exhibition by the N. Y. State Slate Co., 191 Fulton street, New York.

Renewal of Subscription.

Several subscribers, whose JOURNAL was discontinued at the expiration of their term of subscription, have written to us, expressing regret and in some instances great dissatisfaction, that we should have so little confidence in them, as to discontinue the JOURNAL—simply because they had neglected to renew the subscription. One, even saying that if we could not trust him for one dollar, and had struck his name from our list, he would not trouble us to replace it. These parties seem to regard the stopping of their paper as a personal matter, and as evidence that we are unwilling to trust them for the small sum of one dollar. No inference could be more erroneous. The fact is, that the name of each stood upon our subscription list among thousands of others, and simply as a necessary and proper business arrangement, we instructed our clerk to notify by post-card each subscriber when his subscription would expire, and to discontinue the paper to all whose subscription was not renewed, and as in some instances would be the case in the columns of the JOURNAL. For us personally to perform a labor of so great detail is quite impossible, and it is therefore from necessity assigned to clerk who simply obeys instruction, having no knowledge or license by which he can discriminate among delinquent subscribers. In each instance referred to above, we were ourselves obliged to consult our register to learn where the subscriptions were renewed, or the JOURNAL discontinued. We can hardly understand how any one, who, having had due notice of the time when his subscription would expire and has neglected to renew the same, can expect us to know that it is merely an oversight on his part, and make him an exception by continuing to mail him paper. How are we to know that he even desires it? to say nothing of his willingness or ability to pay for it.

We have never claimed to be omniscient, and never supposed that any subscriber

would do us the reverence to so regard us, but simply a sense otherwise, we hasten to correct any such error by saying that our knowledge of the desires of patrons extends only so far as they have been by them expressed, and that the best and only satisfactory evidence we can have that the JOURNAL is desired, is a direct statement to that effect, accompanied with the proper amount of cash.

Proceedings of the Convention.

In reply to the many inquiries, if a full report of all the proceedings of the Convention would be published in pamphlet form, we would say that that matter was left entirely to the discretion of the executive committee who, we understand, have decided not to issue such a report. We shall therefore do the best we can to present all matters of interest through the present and future numbers of the JOURNAL. In the present number, besides a general report of the proceedings will be found, in full, the able and interesting address by W. A. Tallant; and the address upon "Business Education," by Thomas May Pease, President of the Union Business College, Philadelphia, which deserves to be carefully read and considered by every person, in any manner interested in the cause of business education. It is the most sound, logical and convincing statement of the necessity for, and utility of, a special and practical training of young men for business, that we have ever read, and we would give abstracts of the paper on teaching writing by J. W. Payson, and E. G. Folson's profound and masterly address upon the Science of Accounts and their Corollaries in Mental and Moral Philosophy, together with several other items of interest.

Practical Lessons in Writing.

In the next issue of the JOURNAL we shall give the first of a very practical series of lessons in writing, prepared by Prof. J. W. Payson, an associate author of the Payson, Dunton and Scribner popular system of copy books. These lessons will be appropriately illustrated with cuts, and we present the whole subject in a form and manner so ingenious and attractive as to command the interest and greatly aid all earnest pupils and teachers of writing. Indeed, we feel that we cannot commend these lessons too highly. That Prof. Payson is a thorough master of his art and subject, no one who listened to his most excellent essay (an abstract of which is given in another column), upon writing before the late Penman's Convention, can doubt. These lessons have been published in the *Primary Teacher*, published in Boston by T. W. Bicknell, and have everywhere elicited the highest praise.

Regular Issue of the Journal.

Many persons who have from some cause failed to receive certain numbers of the JOURNAL have written to know if it has suspended or if it has been regularly issued. We wish it distinctly understood, that with the exception of the month of August, 1877, the JOURNAL has been printed and mailed to every subscriber upon our list during the first week of every month, and should we need with life and health, it will continue to be mailed, and subscribers who at any time fail, to receive the JOURNAL by the 15th of the month are requested to notify us of that fact, that we may discover, and remove the cause of the failure.

The Special Attention

of teachers, card writers, authors, and proprietors of business colleges is invited to the advantage of inserting a standing business card of three lines in the first column of the JOURNAL. Its circulation is now so large and extensive as to reach more or less, the neighborhood of all persons in the United States or Canada. The charge is small, and can hardly fail of being many times repaid.

A Convention of Western Penmen.

We notice in the June number of the *Penman's Help* (which, by the way, is the latest number received) that several parties are advertising a convention of Western Penmen, to be held during the holidays. By all means, let such a convention be held. Penmen can not come together too often or become too thoroughly acquainted with each other. If possible, we should be happy to attend such a convention, but with us the holiday season is the time, above all others, that overburdens us with work. We shall, however, watch any movement in that direction with a great degree of interest and favor. Let our western brethren assemble, have their essays and poems adjusted to join in a grand united national convention at Cleveland, O., in August next.

Encouraging.

It is not only encouraging but highly gratifying to receive such substantial assurance as that given by Prof. Soule in the following letter, that the *JOURNAL* and its efforts in behalf of practical education is being appreciated and acknowledged by representative teachers.

OFFICE OF THE BRYANT & STRATTON BUSINESS COLLEGE

Philadelphia, Aug. 25, '78

MY DEAR AMES:—At the last meeting of the Business College Teachers' and Penmen's Association, held in New York, you will remember that I made a few remarks on what I deemed the duty of college principals and penmen in the support of your paper. I then felt and still feel, that your efforts to establish a journal devoted to our interests and which will be the organ of the association, should receive hearty and liberal aid from every member of our profession.

I desire to see it placed on a *paying basis* for a number of seasons, one, that you, to whom so much is due, should be rewarded for your generous outlay of time and money; another that it be made a *permanent* institution, and lastly, that when well established you may be able to devote to it your whole time, thus improving and elevating each department.

I wish there was more interest taken in this matter, and that greater disposition was shown by principals of Business Colleges willing to secure a large circulation of the *JOURNAL*. There are none but can afford to subscribe for at least five or ten copies, which may be profitably used as rewards for improvement in writing, fine sets of books, etc., by pupils.

I enclose check for ten (10) yearly subscriptions, please give me credit. The names of parties to whom I wish them sent will be forwarded as soon as possible.

When the season opens, efforts will be made to send you one or more large clubs.

Very truly, yours,
J. E. SOULE.

To the Business College Teachers and Penmen of the U. S. and Canadas

The undersigned duly elected members of the Executive Committee of the "Business College Teachers' and Penmen's Association," having been authorized to admit as charter members of the Association, all who are eligible to membership, and who pay the dues of \$175 (\$50), on or before October 1st next, hereby notify those whom it may concern that communication to either of them on the above subject will receive prompt attention.

L. LEONHART, Kingston, Pa.
H. C. SPENCER, Washington, D.C.
THOMAS MAY PENMAN, Philadelphia.
Executive Committee.

Business College Items.

Col. Soule, President of Soule's Commercial College, New Orleans, La., is spending his vacation in Europe.

E. P. Heald's Business College *Journal*, San Francisco, Cal., is the most interesting and readable college paper that finds its way into our sanctum.

The prospectus of Peirce's Union Business College, Philadelphia, in keeping with the institution it represents, is a practical, business like statement of what patrons desire to know.

The Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., D. I. Musselman, principal, has a re-nuon and a reception on September 3. We regret not being able to accept an invitation to be present.

Henry C. Wright's Catalogue and College Journal for 1878-9, is received. Both are models of good taste, and common sense in advertising. The specimens of penmanship presented in the catalogue, from the pen of W. E. Dennis, are superb.

G. W. Brown has become the sole proprietor of the Jacksonville, Ill., Business College, and will be assisted in the col-

perity for that institution during the past year; over five hundred pupils having been in attendance.

A Beautiful and Valuable Premium.

Until further notice we will mail to each new subscriber, and others renewing their subscription with the first copy of the *JOURNAL*, a copy of *The Lord's Prayer*, 19 x 24. This is a fac-simile copy of one of the most artistic, beautiful, and perfect works that we have ever executed with the pen; beside displaying the text of the Prayer in highly ornate and perfect lettering, there are represented ten of the most important scenes in the life of Christ, together with the ten commandments. The original pen and ink copy of this picture was executed by us on an order from the publisher, Mr. G. M. Allen, for which he paid us five hundred dollars in cash. Copies the same size and quality, as we now offer free as a premium to every new subscriber and renewal, he sold through agents for one dollar. This premium alone is well worth the entire cost of a year's subscription to the *JOURNAL*. Want of space forbids a more extended description at present.

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This book is a continuation of the Elementary edition, enlarged, for Schools of higher grades. Double and Single Entry, and used extensively in Commercial Departments, High Schools, and Commercial and Business Colleges. Contains 169 pages. Printed in two colors; cloth cover. Retail price, \$2.00.

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Address

J. C. BRYANT,

Buffalo, N. Y.



THE ABOVE IS A FAC-SIMILE COPY OF FLOURISHING BY M. E. BLACKMAN, OF WORCESTER, MASS.

lege by I. J. Woodworth and H. B. Chicken. Mr. Chicken graduated with J. E. Soule, and is an accomplished writer and teacher.

T. B. Stowell has become proprietor of the Providence Business College, formerly owned and conducted by W. W. Warner. Mr. Stowell is a graduate of the State Normal School of Mass.; he is a skillful, experienced and popular teacher, and will undoubtedly win favor and success in his new position.

The Annual Catalogue and college paper issued by H. E. Hubbard, Principal of the "Bryant & Stratton Commercial School," Boston, has been received. Both are of excellent taste and tell of remarkable pro-

We will close by giving two among hundreds of complimentary notices it has received from the press and lovers of art.

Elizabeth, N. J., *Daily Journal*.

"April 21, 1876.

"It is an enormous and wonderful production of the pen, and deserves a place in every home in our land."

Daily Standard, Syracuse, N. Y.

"April 24, 1876.

"Prof. Ames has wrought out many a noble, and many an artistic design, but never did he essay, and never did he execute a more worthy or noble design than the *Lord's Prayer*. The whole work is a master piece of ingenuity and taste. We are confident that no illustrated copy of the prayer was ever originated which will compare favorably either in taste, skill or excellence of execution."

The Convention.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

* Pursuant to the circular of invitation issued by the preliminary committee in June last, nearly one hundred teachers of writing and commercial branches assembled at Peckard's College Hall, in this city, on August 6. The convention was called to order by William Allen Miller, chairman of the committee, who invited L. L. Sprague, of Kingston, Pa., to preside as temporary chairman. After a brief and able address the chairman announced the convention to be in readiness for the transaction of business.

On motion of S. S. Packard, the Hon. Ira Mayhew, of Detroit, Mich., was unanimously elected President of the convention. After a few well chosen remarks by the President, the organization was completed by electing T. T. Ames, of New York City, Secretary; J. Van Sickle, A. M., M. D., Springfield, Ohio, lat Vice President, and H. C. Spencer, Washington, D. C., 2d Vice Presidents. Van Allen Miller, D. C., E. G. Folson, C. L. Miller and S. S. Packard were appointed a committee to prepare and present a programme for the order of exercises during the session.

On request of the committee for instruction regarding the duration of the convention and its hours of session, a motion was made by Henry C. Wright, and carried, that the convention continue in session four days and hold daily sessions from 9 to 12 a. m., and from 12:30 to 3 p. m. A motion was made by H. E. Hibbard, of Boston, and carried, that while waiting for the report of the committee on programme, the roll be called and each name in responding to his name, rise in his place, and give a brief history of himself and his present occupation, which being approved to be not only very interesting but very pleasing method of introducing each individual to the convention. After calling the roll the committee on programme presented their report and the convention was adjourned to 2 p. m. The afternoon session was opened by an address of welcome and address of welcome from Prof. Z. Richards, Washington, D. C., to whom the convention tendered a unanimous vote of thanks.

Vice-President Van Sickle was then called to the chair, and an address was delivered by the President, Hon. Ira Mayhew, upon the subject of "Business Education." On motion of Mr. Hibbard a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Mayhew for this very able and instructive address.

Motion was then made by Mr. Hibbard, that the exercises be opened Wednesday morning at nine o'clock, by the reading of a paper in writing, to be given by the person who should be selected by ballot from the members of the convention. Henry C. Spencer receiving the largest number of votes, was announced as the teacher.

At 9 a. m. Wednesday, the convention was organized into a writing class by Mr. Spencer, who occupied an hour and a half in giving a very interesting and instructive lesson illustrative of the best methods of teaching writing, in which he strongly advocated the muscular or forearm movement and sitting posture to the desk by the pupil.

After this lesson, L. L. Sprague, opened the convention upon the subject of Business Correspondence, his well chosen language, apt illustrations pointed and humorous anecdotes served to render this one of the most pleasing and valuable addresses before the convention. It was followed by a spirited discussion by Messrs H. C. Spencer, Packard, Granger, Folson, McCrory, Shattuck, Hunt, Peirce, Sprague, Soble, and Shattuck. At the opening of the afternoon session, S. S. Packard, in his peculiar happy manner, gave a history of the life and work of John D. Williams. He, and Mr. Packard, one of the most earnest, skillful workers had ever known, most exacting of good work from his pupils, severe but just, in his criticisms, and one of the most open, frank, and liberal men he had ever met. Mr. Packard's address was followed by remarks by William Duff, H. C. Spencer, and W. A. Miller, who were pupils or associates of Mr. Williams, and gave many interesting reminiscences of his life and character. The address of Mr. Packard will be found in full in a future number of the JOURNAL.

The following telegram from H. B. Bryant, one of the founders of the Bernal and Stratton chain of colleges, to the President of the convention was read by the Secretary.

CHICAGO, August 7, 1878.

PRESIDENT OF PENMAN'S CONVENTION.

Greeting and good fellowship to you all. Many good results from your deliberations, and practical education, never more popular than to-day, be strengthened and advanced by the views, papers, and discussions which will be presented. Should Chicago be named for the next meeting, rest assured the compliment would be duly appreciated.

H. B. BRYANT.

Prof. A. R. Dutton, of Boston, then occupied an hour, during which he illustrated in a very apt and enthusiastic manner his method of instructing classes in writing, he advocated the forearm or elbow movement and sitting with the right side to the desk.

Prof. Geo. H. Shattuck followed Mr. Dutton with a very interesting and practical paper upon the best methods of teaching primary penmanship.

An able and instructive paper was then read by Prof. H. W. Ellsworth, 9 a. m. "Writing in Public Schools." A vote of thanks was then tendered to Prof. Spencer, Dutton, Shattuck, and Ellsworth, for their interesting and instructive lessons and papers on teaching writing.

On motion of J. E. Soble, a committee of five consisting of J. E. Soble, S. S. Packard, L. L. Sprague, Thomas A. Peirce, and W. A. Miller were then appointed by the chair, to devise and report, on the following day, a plan for a permanent organization had in carrying the expenses of the convention.

A motion was then made and carried that on Thursday evening a social meeting be held in the hall of the convention, and spend the evening for the extending of acquaintance and in social intercourse. Miscellaneous remarks were made by Messrs. Miller, Van Sickle, Meads, Ames, Duff, Cooper, McCrory, Mayhew and Sprague, when the convention adjourned to Thursday, 9 a. m.

At the opening of the exercises, Thursday, a poem which will be found in another column entitled "Writing and Science," written by W. A. Talbot, of Albany, was read by Mr. McCrory. A profound and able address was then delivered by E. G. Folson of Albany, upon the subject of "Account and its Corollaries in Mental and Moral Philosophy," an animated discussion followed upon Mr. Folson's paper. The committee on permanent organization and finance then reported the following preamble and articles which were read and after brief discussion were unanimously adopted.

PREAMBLE.

Forasmuch as there are a large number of Business Colleges in the United States with an attendance as great as that of the Normal Schools, and as there seems to be a want of clearness in the public mind as to the mission of these Colleges and the place they occupy in the educational field, it is agreed by the following principals, principals and teachers in Business Colleges and authors of teachers in penmanship, to organize an association to be known as the "BUSINESS COLLEGE TEACHERS' AND PENMAN'S ASSOCIATION," the object of which shall be to promote fellowship and fraternal relations among the teachers, to draw together in social feeling and intercourse the employer and employed, thus giving the employer a personal acquaintance with those adapted to help him in his work, and to the employed a personal knowledge of those likely to need his services, to canvass and discuss methods of instruction and course of study, and generally to promote the cause and elevate the standard of business education.

MEMBERS.

Any one engaged in teaching or qualified to teach any branch of business college education is eligible to membership, and may become a member by vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

OFFICERS.

The officers of the association shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and an Executive Committee of three to be elected annually and serve until their successors are duly appointed.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The duties of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be such as are ordinarily performed by such officers. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the business matters of the Association, such as the sending of all bills, the revision of procedures for periodicals, the calling of special meetings, the preparation of a programme of exercises, for all meetings and generally to perform any duty not otherwise provided for by these articles of association.

MEETINGS.

Meetings shall be held annually, during the vacation period, at such time and place as the association shall have designated at the last preceding annual meeting.

DUES AND EXPENSES.

Each member shall pay annually at the opening of each annual meeting to the Treasurer the sum of five dollars. Failure to pay the dues of a member shall deprive him of the force of accepted resignation.

QUORUM.

Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum.

ORDERS OF BUSINESS, ETC.

In all other matters the association shall be governed by the rules laid down in "Cushing's Manual."

AMENDMENTS.

Any of these articles may be amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any meeting.

The articles of association having been read, the convention proceeded to the election of the following officers for the ensuing year, S. S. Packard of New York, President; Hon. Ira Mayhew Detroit, Mich., Vice Pres; J. E. Soble, Philadelphia, Secretary; Charles Claghorn, Brooklyn, Treasurer; and L. L. Sprague, Kingston, Pa., H. C. Spencer, Washington, D. C., and Thomas May Peirce, Philadelphia, Executive Committee.

By an almost unanimous vote, the association accepted the invitation of P. R. Spens of the first Tuesday in August, 1879, to hold the next convention in the rooms of his business college, Cleveland, Ohio, on the first Tuesday in August, 1879.

The following resolutions were then presented and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this association are due to the committee, for the able and successful management in which they have performed their laborious duties which have so largely contributed to the success of our convention.

Resolved, That the thanks are eminently due the publisher of the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL for his hearty co-operation in the movement of a Penman's Convention.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this association are hereby extended to Mr. S. S. Packard, who has so kindly furnished a room for its use for his extra efforts in conducting our stay here both pleasant and profitable.

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be extended to the acting officers for the able manner in which they have performed their duties.

At the opening of the afternoon session a paper upon "Claims of the Study of Book-keeping," was read by J. W. Van Sickle, A. M., M. D., Springfield, Ohio. An Short Poem termed "An Interlude," was read by J. H. Lunsley, Ph. D., Elizabeth, N. J. A very able and practical address was then delivered upon the subject of "Business Education" by Thomas May Peirce, of Philadelphia. A very instructive and practical address was then delivered by H. H. Bowman, upon the subject of Commercial Law. After some discussion and miscellaneous remarks, the session closed at 4.30 P. M.

At eight o'clock P. M., a large number of the members assembled in the brilliantly lighted hall, and passed the evening in social intercourse and private discussion of various topics of interest connected with their professions. Altogether this proved one of the most interesting and valuable meetings of the entire session of the convention.

At the opening of the session Friday morning, Mr. Mayhew stated that he had in an adjoining room his extended exhibits of writing and book-keeping from his college, which he had been especially urged to present to the association, and by a vote of the members he was invited to present them with explanations. After the close of Mr. Mayhew's remarks, W. H. Payson read a paper prepared by his father,

J. W. Payson, upon "Methods of Teaching Writing." On motion of J. E. Peirce, a vote of thanks was tendered Prof. Payson for his remarkably able and interesting paper.

The Hon. Ira Mayhew being about to return from the convention, occupied a short time in a parting and deeply interesting address, at the conclusion of which, a motion of Mr. Peirce, a committee consisting of Messrs. Peirce, Sprague and Soble, were appointed to draft a minute expressive of the very high appreciation of the convention of the services rendered it, and to business education by the Hon. Ira Mayhew. An interesting paper prepared by Mr. Mayhew, upon the life and services of his father, P. R. Spencer, was then read by Wm. Allen Miller.

On motion of Mr. Sprague a vote of thanks was tendered to L. P. Spencer for the preparation of so admirable an essay, and to Mr. Miller for the excellent manner in which he had read the paper.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously tendered to A. H. Hinnam, for the very elegant manner in which he had written the names of the members of the convention upon the black boards, and he was also invited to occupy twenty-five minutes in giving a practical illustration of the black board, of his method of instructing classes in writing; in this exercise Mr. Hinnam displayed not only remarkable skill and facility in black board writing, but he developed the most thoroughly original, practical and effective method that was presented to the convention, and interesting the pupil, and at the same time enabling him to criticize his own writing, and ascertain wherein it lacked the desired excellence. After some complimentary remarks Mr. Hunt offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be tendered to Mr. A. H. Hinnam, of Detroit, for his excellent lecture on Writing, embodying subtle illustrations, original ideas and methods, and fully practiced in the class-room, calculated to awaken and sustain interest, and at the same time cultivate the taste and eye of the pupil.

The following resolution was then offered by Mr. Claghorn, which, after being strongly commended by Messrs. Peirce, Sprague, Peirce, Palmer, Blackman, and Packard, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be tendered to Mr. A. H. Hinnam, of Detroit, for his excellent lecture on Writing, embodying subtle illustrations, original ideas and methods, and fully practiced in the class-room, calculated to awaken and sustain interest, and at the same time cultivate the taste and eye of the pupil.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this association are hereby extended to Mr. S. S. Packard, who has so kindly furnished a room for its use for his extra efforts in conducting our stay here both pleasant and profitable.

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J. L. SPRAGUE, Principal.

Business Correspondence.

ADDRESS BY L. L. SPRAGUE, C. M. OF EASTON, PA., BEFORE THE PENMAN'S CONVENTION,
NEW YORK, AUGUST 7, 1878.

From a *Stenographic Report by J. T. Green*, of New York.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN:

I shall not attempt to present this subject to your consideration in any profound manner. I unfortunately left all my proficiency at home, and besides the subject is not a profound one, and I should attempt to treat it pretentiously, and bring out all the details bearing upon Business Correspondence. I should desire to have my audience dismissed as summarily as was that of an incontinent lecturer who was travelling in the north-west of Scotland. At one place where he stopped the proprietor of the hotel told him that for a theatrical performance he could not act on no longer, but, as the people there were all fond of Science, they would come to hear a lecture upon almost any scientific subject. He knew nothing of science, but his pockets were empty, and something had to be done, so he boldly announced to lecture upon Chemistry, trusting to his wit to carry him through. When the time came he had a very large audience, and with a lecture-giver, a retort and some glass tubes he performed a few simple experiments before them; then taking a quantity of brick-bat, he threw it into a mortar, and began to stir it vigorously, tilting all the while upon the dangerous character of the compound also stating that he was gravely affected with its use, and was liable to drop dead at any moment if he did not make the startling assertion that, at last he made the startling assertion that, for only one second the whole building to start its vigorous tilting, all the while tilting. In two minutes there was not a single being remaining in the house, except the lecturer and assistant who gathered the spoils and left. So I say that if I make this a profound subject I should be sure to be left as mercifully as was this pseudo scientific lecturer.

During the year 1877, there passed through

the mails of the United States, nine hundred millions of letters, (including postal cards). Estimating the letter-writing population of the country at thirty millions each person wrote one letter every ten days, or, estimating only one tenth of such population to be engaged in business requiring any considerable amount of correspondence, and there was one business letter per day written by each person. There go to the Dead Letter Office on account of deficiencies in the address, or lack of postage, four and a half millions of letters, annually. There are twelve millions of the youth of this country attending school, preparing themselves for the discharge of the active duties of life. About one out of every four hundred of these attend business colleges. From these figures we get certain other facts. First, that a very considerable portion of communication between man and man, and especially between business men as conducted through the medium of written letters. Second, there is in general a lamentable deficiency, on the part of the people, in regard to letter writing. Third, that the utility of schools in preparing the youth of our country for the discharge of the active duties is unquestioned in the United States. Fourth, that business colleges in taking one out of every four hundred of the youth attend the responsibility of drilling most thoroughly and comprehensively all their students in a course of business correspondence. I am glad that my subject is limited to business correspondence, for if not, it would be far beyond the scope of a single lecture. In the time allotted to me here to-day, I talked myself out, and that the object of speech was to conceal thought, and it would seem that this was also the object of many persons in writing letters. I wonder if any of these Business College Principals ever received a letter running in this style: "Sir: Please take notice, I want your college, please, without any post office address or date. I wonder if any of you ever saw a letter running in this strain.

Sir: I sit down and take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well, with the exception of a bad cold, and "hope you are enjoying the same blessing." I have no doubt you have all seen just such letters.

BUSINESS LETTER WRITING.

I conceive to have at least three divisions: first, mechanical construction; second, the thought expressed; third, the manner of expressing these thoughts. Let us look for a few moments at the mechanical construction of a business letter. I am aware that there are a great many well authorized forms, but I believe that every teacher of this branch should be able to give one clear, well defined, arbitrary form of business letter. Most going have about as clear an idea of a business letter as they have of a mouse, and a variety of forms tend to confuse them, and strengthen them in the notion that better writing is not an art. The converse's first duty there fore should be to convince the scholar that there is a standard form for writing a letter, and then to drill him until he is thoroughly familiar with that form. Of course he should give a logical reason for every feature in the letter. Having the correct form for a business letter, the pupil should be made to understand that there are at least two ways of executing that form. One way is very aptly described by Charles Dickens, where he gives us a picture of Samuel Allen when he wrote at a table, resting upon

two legs, a share of the time, with one foot on the floor, extended as far as the rear as possible, and the other lost in the maze of the rounds of his chair, his head reclining upon his left arm, and making with his tongue imaginary characters, to correspond with those made with the pen. Then, mistakes would occur, these were rubbed out with the finger, and the spot, laked over and wiped off with the coat-sleeve. The pen was plunged deeply into the ink-bottle and with thumb and finger, and clean linen on, he demonstrated, that a given quantity of ink will go farther than any other known commodity. Then some thoughts were too large for ordinary utterance, these began with capitals. The superscription began on the very uppermost margin of the envelope, a our cent stamp adorned the upper left hand corner, and a big blot the lower one, and this is one way of writing a business letter. Another way is to first obtain the very best materials in the market. We ought to exercise as much taste in selecting our

WRITING MATERIALS.

as our clothing, they ought to be regarded as certain an indication of a person's taste as the clothes he wears. You would not expect Ritz to execute a fine steel engraving with a cold chisel. I defy a man to write a perfect letter with poor materials; the spirit which inspires the penman, the feeling which animates the characteristic between civilization and barbarism. Shakespeare tells us that "the apparel oft proclaims the man." It is as much an art of vulgarity to address a soiled letter to a friend as to visit him in shabby clothes or dirty linen. We all understand that the materials for letter writing are almost a certain indication of the person's taste. Then let us get the very best materials possible. Of course no one should think of using in a business letter highly perfumed or colored paper or envelopes. Business is too serious a reality to admit such trifles and most business men do not take any stock in men who do this.

There are now certain subdivisions under these general divisions I have named. They are, first, penmanship; second, orthography; third, the address of the writer; fourth, the style; fifth, the name and address of the party, to whom the letter is written; sixth, the salutation; seventh, the body of the letter, eighth, the complimentary closing; ninth, the signature. It is not necessary for me to explain to you each of these in detail but I desire to briefly refer to a few of them. First,

PENMANSHIP.

The penmanship of a business letter ought to be as perfect as it is possible for the writer to make it, and no person with unimpaired faculties is too old to learn to write. I think it was Charles Fox, who when he was appointed Secretary of State in England under King George, being taunted with bad penmanship actually secured the services of a writing teacher to improve his hand writing. Poor penmanship should not be tolerated for a moment in the exercise of old to learn to write. In fact there is no part of the curriculum of a commercial college more important than penmanship. Second,

ORTHOGRAPHY.

It is a weakness of mine that I never could fully respect a person that couldn't spell correctly. If a student is as old as Methuselah and as big as a mouse, he is not too old or too big to learn to spell. I have heard students say they could never learn to spell, but I as-

sured them, and showed them, that they had gone to work in a wrong direction. I think no commercial college is excusable for graduating a young man who cannot spell properly.

Another very important element in a business letter is the

SIGNATURE.

Very early in the course of his commercial studies a student should be instructed in forming a signature; not a spurious, tagged, unintelligible mass of letters, but one plain, legible, and always the same, and this signature should appear in an unvarying form on all letters, and on all commercial paper. I now come to the thought, expressed in the expression

BUSINESS IN BUSINESS.

It is a terse one, and one full of meaning. The direct inference is that we should not mix up extraneous affairs with business. Social and domestic affairs are out of place in a business letter. One of the best business men I ever knew, and one of the most successful was cold, rigid, and arbitrary, in business, but in domestic affairs, away from his business, he was one of the kindest and most genial of men. Social and domestic affairs should not be mingled with business correspondence. If it is desired to communicate social affairs use a separate sheet of paper. In this connection I suggested a few words upon business customs. Most teachers of experience in commercial branches will have noticed (unless they have been in the habit of giving scholars the fullest outline for their letters) how utterly ignorant they are concerning

BUSINESS CUSTOMS.

and relations. Young men often suppose, that, all that is necessary to obtain a bill of goods from one of the great wholesale houses, is to write them a letter ordering the goods, stating the station to which they are to be sent, and to wind up by saying, "On receipt of goods, with bill I will remit check." I conceive it to be the duty of the teacher to fully explain to the student everything that pertains to the practice of selling goods on credit, and I think one of the most important duties of the commercial teacher is to thoroughly inform himself in regard to the regulations and customs of business houses throughout the country. It is no disgrace for a teacher to question business men of known experience and reputation, concerning business customs. I have never yet found one who was not willing and anxious to communicate such information. The commercial teacher will obtain in this way some of the most practical and valuable information possible to obtain, and let us bear in mind that it is just this information which we are paid for imparting to our pupils.

After the subject for a business letter has been given out, first, let there be the fullest discussion concerning this subject, its relation to each party and all the circumstances bearing upon it. I prefer to do this when the subject of the letter is given out. In this way the student is given an opportunity for the exercise of his judgment in writing the letter. For instance,

THE SUBJECT.

given is an application for a situation. The teacher of experience, knows that some students will use language too egotistical; others too servile; others again will not give any references; others will have but little idea of what is required in such a letter. The teach-

or will explain to the student the relations of the application to his desired employer, giving what he believes to be a clear idea of what is wanted. Then, when the letters have been corrected, the teacher will criticize them before the whole class, without, of course, giving any names. I am aware that this is a very nice thing to do, but done judiciously, and with discretion it will help to impress the errors of the class deeply upon their minds. We must remember our letters, it is true, to avoid repeating them. I believe, however, it will be found, that by a judicious selection of subjects this plan can be made the means of imparting a vast amount of practical and valuable information, that would not be brought before the class in any other way. I cannot, be it my opinion, enforce too strongly this system, as it is so important to the class all the practical knowledge we may be able to obtain concerning business customs and regulations.

We take young men, comparatively ignorant of these customs and in four or five months turn them out having at least a faint, but necessary idea of the relations between clerk and employer, between landlord and tenant, principal and agent, shipper and cargo, etc., also having a fair idea of collections and remittances, when and how made, and having an idea of these customs and relations, he is a thousand fold better prepared to enter upon the active part of his business.

Next in importance, to the thoughts expressed in a business letter, I place the

MANEER OF THEIR EXPRESSION.

First of all, avoid ambiguity. It is not very clear that the person wishes us happiness who says: "I wish, except a bad cold, and hopes to be enjoying the weather in the country." In the student's strong, concise, direct method of expression. There is no place in "business" for that class of men who are forever soaring after the indistinct, or diving after the unfathomable, but who never pay cash. A true business man does not like circumlocution; he has no time to lose in that, much less to read it. You cannot disgust him quicker than by using long and tangled sentences. Say what you have to say in the shortest time, and in the fewest words. Hard facts are his admiration. Facts and cash are his staples in trade. Having then a clear idea of what he desires in his communications, we will next consider the manner, and concisely. There is no better method to exercise than writing correct business letters. I rely a practical rhetorician to write a better letter than many of the letters coming from many of our first-class business houses. They are models of elegant English. We should be doing this immediately before the class in the very beginning of this exercise. They should be given to understand that they have an important duty to perform, and that writing a business letter is not the indifferent expression of a certain number of ideas. After the class is well under way, let the teacher ritely criticize the dictations as well as other features of the letter, not forgetting to give the class due encouragement and praise for any merit. I told a student can write a business letter without errors of orthography and grammar, and serious errors of expression, he ought to be required to write at least one letter a week. I am aware that this is a very difficult thing to require. Business letters in their business departments, but this should not displace the regular exercise. It will require a great deal of work and the teacher's inventive faculties to keep up the interest, but it will pay in the end. Another important element is

POLITENESS.

No more potent element (outside of industry) can be found in the character of a business man. In fact it is a *non qua non* to his success, and no where is it more necessary to exercise it, than in business. It was said of the Duke of Marlborough that he deemed a favor by him was more pleasant to him than one bestowed by another. He was a Frenchman, spoke bad English, and wrote worse. When he was one of the highest Frenchmen then ever lived, but his polite manners raised him from a position of shame and disgrace to the Presidency of the National Assembly. There is no greater evidence of culture and good breeding than a politely written letter. Under circumstances of great provocation. But politeness is not weakness. I would not give a fig for a man who did not fire up at the right time, but the man who puts very much on

paper during the heat of passion is not a sharp business man. The business man's true motto is "*Suaviter in modo fortiter in re*." I think all will agree with me as to the necessity of politeness in business, and especially in business correspondence. True politeness smooths the rugged paths of business life. It is an open avenue to position and advantage.

Another very important feature in a business letter is

PUNCTUATION.

An unpunctuated letter looks strangely unbusinesslike, and no business man makes very bad work by not punctuating our sentences; for instance, a newspaper man reporting a minister, as saying, "last Sabbath a halfpenny I was preaching a sermon in a state of healthy intoxication." We should not leave the matter of punctuation to mere mechanical judgment. This ought to be clear and well-defined rules governing it.

I have now given a faint outline of my ideas as to what a business letter should be. It could not be expected of me on this occasion to give all the features of business correspondence. I know there are many points that I did not touch upon, and which I will touch upon in the future. I would like to put you at your point, I could give you my ideas of the correct mechanical construction of a business letter, my notions as to proper punctuation, of folding and of filing; of superscription; of the use of sealing wax and wafers; also of postal cards, but you will find all this in the *Manual of Letter Writing* manuals. What I conceive to be wanted is for us all to realize how important is this branch in business education, and to apply ourselves more earnestly and more systematically to the teaching of it. We cannot have our classes write too many letters, nor can we make it in teaching the student to closely Abraham Lincoln motto: "Keep pegging away."

It is a good omen that new *Manuals of Letter-writing* are coming out yearly. It tells clearly that business correspondence has become a science, and it is worthy of a position among the sciences.

It is through the medium of correspondence that the business man obtains his thousands of the world's accumulations, that knowledge is sent broadcast over the land, like the stream of sunlight piercing the gloaming of the morning, and I ask why it that we are able to communicate by written language with so great facility? Why the marvellous difference between the Bushman of South Africa and the Anglo Saxon? I answer, The Bushman never saw the inside of a school-house; every Saxon has one almost within stone-throw. Take our schools from us and put them in South Africa, and the Bushman and the Saxon will change sides. Let us then, my fellow teachers, realize more fully our mission in the world, and let us take courage and go forward.

MR. Packard's Address.

ON THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF

JOHN D. WILLIAMS.

(Photographically reported by Miss Lottie Holt.)

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION.—I am very much pleased to have the opportunity of what I shall say to you upon the subject which has been assigned to me. It was due to you, and especially to the committee, who assigned me this work, that I should have taken the requisite time to have prepared carefully a paper which would do justice to my subject and to the occasion. In the first place, the pressure of other duties made it impossible for me to prepare the paper, and I felt that I must excuse myself entirely from the task. Such was my intention until within the last few hours. It has been intimated to me that the subject to present the subject in some shape is before the convention, and I feel the cause of serious disappointment to some members who would like to hear in detail more of Mr. Williams' life and work; and also to some others who are perhaps better prepared to speak upon the subject than myself. I trust, therefore, that you will accept what I have to say, and be prepared to what others may add, thus in an attempt to treat the subject with any degree of fairness. In fact, as you know of it, I could not well have written about John D. Williams. It would seem too hard and formal for me to put down with cold ink upon

cold paper my thoughts of this dear friend; and it is only in the hope that I may be benefited by some appreciative warmth of expression by those who surround me, and sympathize with me, that I am impelled to say anything at this time. Another reason why I feel great embarrassment in the matter, is that I am lacking the elementary training which Mr. Hunt has just spoken of as being necessary for a teacher, and especially a speaker. I am peculiarly unfortunate in my temperament, and am quite likely to do even more than I fear; for I sometimes think I am the boy who "never had a piece of bread, particularly large and wide, but what it fell upon the floor, and always on the buttered side."

Mr. Williams was known by me from early for a number of years. He was unlike any other man whom I have known. He was peculiar in almost all respects, as real men of talent and genius are apt to be. He was simply himself, and like no other self. In the first place, he was peculiarly a sincere man; I am sure that he was utterly devoid of dissimulation. He was very ready to do a thing, and that was the direct way. If he did not succeed then, he failed; but he rarely ever failed. If he had anything to say, he said it without circumlocution, and without considering the consequences. He simply struck from the shoulder. I think he could help do any thing, and he did it so well, and so well, that he was a splendid leader. He had the faculty of making what he did seem to be the best thing to be done. He almost always accomplished his purposes. He never knew weariness, but could work twenty hours out of twenty-four and grow fat on it.

I have said that his peculiar kind of work has never been excelled, and that to-day the very best of hand-work of our best ornamental writers is, with very little variation, an imitation of Mr. Williams' designs. It was a knowledge of this fact that ten years ago induced me to write the *Manual of Letter-writing*, and to collect your fugitive work and put it in shape for an engraver, put your stamp upon it and let it go out before the world under its proper guise." And out of this suggestion grew at last what is known by you all as the *Williams and Packard's Genus of Penmanship*.

Before you speak of Mr. Williams' character, and especially his claims to consideration, you must take into account the school in which he was educated. I say school, though the term may not in all respects be appropriate. When Mr. Williams first began to teach, the name "Spencerian," as applied to a system of writing, was unknown in this country. Not that Mr. Spencer had not begun to work, or had not accomplished some of the very best of his work, but his name had not reached much beyond his own immediate neighborhood. To those of us who are now in the field, and who pride ourselves upon being Spencerians, it may be difficult to understand that when I was very young the Spencerian standard of writing was unknown; but others of us who were teaching before the era of steel pens and ruled paper, and who knew of no better way of conveying instruction than by setting a copy and telling a student to imitate it, have a better sense of the value of the work of Mr. Spencer than we who are his co-laborers in bringing the teaching of the art to such perfection in methods and application. Mr. Williams was one of the very first to appreciate the beauty of the Spencerian writing, and one of the earliest of Mr. Spencer's disciples. I am not sure that he ever received criticism from Mr. Spencer himself, but I know he did of Mr. Rice who was one of the early champions of the father of Spencerian writing, and that in his after contact with Mr. Lusk and the Spencerian controversy he made himself a thorough master of the whole subject.

When I first knew Mr. Williams he was not a Spencerian, but he was a man who understood that designation. He had great faith in himself, and always felt that he did well because he did to the best of his ability, and as nearly as possible up to his own ideas. It was not only an excellent critic of others, but quite as good a critic of himself, for he was very self-critical. He was very self-critical, and could always see as much beauty in another's work as in his own. He was always glad to be criticised, and always profited by any fair criticism. He had one

great weakness; it was his inability to keep a secret. It was impossible for him to conceal anything that he knew, and when a thought occurred to him, or when he saw a thing, or when he saw a thing, or when he saw a thing, his money is always supposed to burn a hole in his pocket. If a thought entered his mind, he acted upon it promptly, and took everybody into his counsel. Often through this infirmity, if I may so call it, he lost the advantage which some others gained of getting things turned out of his mind. It was as generous as he was just; for although he would never accept poor work, he was ever able to recognize a student's merits, and he could often see possibilities which were hidden from less acute eyes. He was apt to make enemies for the moment, but his enemies turned to friends as he died. He would shake a student roundly and stir up all his evil feelings; but in the long run the student felt that Mr. Williams' abuse was only fairly to his own good, and then came the reaction which was always in Mr. Williams' favor.

Another question has been frequently asked, whether he did the work for which he got the credit, or whether his crude efforts were not beautified by the engraver. I would like to put that question for ever at rest. I do not believe that any author of writing ever put more perfect copies in an engraver's hands than Mr. Williams. He was very ready to try my own recollections in this matter, but the attestation of all the engravers who worked for him. He was most exact in all that he did for the engraver, and no improvement was ever made upon his work. In fact, I have been told by engravers that any attempt to improve upon Mr. Williams' lines was at once rejected. He was very ready to state fully, thought about his claims to consideration, and have tried as clearly as possible to estimate him as an artist and a teacher, and I have come finally to the conclusion, that in the matter of off-hand work, he has never had a superior, if he has had an equal. As a teacher of English writing, he was probably never equaled so highly in the estimation of those who come after him; but if any such suppose that he was not a thorough teacher, both of practical and ornamental writing, they should at once amend that judgment. Taking him all in all, I do not know of his superior as a teacher or as a writer, either practically or theoretically. There is one thing which should be said of him which may be said of all true artists: he always knew what was to be the outcome of his work. Before a single mark was made upon the paper, he had before his mind's eye a correct impression of just how the work was to look. He made no false movements. He was always true, and with utmost correctness, precision and judgment.

I am not at all afraid, gentlemen of the convention, that the name of John D. Williams will ever be forgotten by the true workers in our art. He has no such happened himself as he has that as the years grow apace, and he rose only in our working memory and through his immortal works, we shall learn better and better how to appreciate him and all he did. You may think that in many things I have said I have been extravagant in my praise, and those who withstand a safer distance may feel that much of it is mere flattery. I am sure that I have been more coolness of criticism; but I have spoken of a very dear friend. I could not say of him or for him less than I have said. If, in your judgment, I have in any instance overrated his ability or his qualities, I trust that you will consider it as the outpouring of a generous friendship, and a sincere attempt to do justice to one who cannot now speak for himself.

Regular Issue of the Journal.

Many persons who have from some cause failed to receive certain numbers of the *JOURNAL*, have written to know if they may not be supplied with the missing numbers, or if they have been overlooked. We wish it distinctly understood, that with the exception of the month of August, 1877, the *JOURNAL* has been printed and mailed to every subscriber upon our list during the first week of every month, and should we be blessed with life and health, it will continue to be mailed, and subscribers who at any time fail, to receive the *JOURNAL* by the 15th of the month are requested to notify us of that fact, that we may recover, and remove the cause of the failure.

Business and Poetry.

BY A. W. TALBOT.

Along the green valleys and over the hills
The thrills of plenty are scattered;
To fold the raptures, song by the rills—
The story of fancies unnumbered.

The hum of the spindle, the click of the loom,
The ring of the reel and the hammer,
The hum of the mill, the busy of room
For all in the business dream.

The skillful, the learned, and the willing are called
To create with business learning,
And all in a better position toiled;
While the idler is left to his dreaming.

The reaper, the mow, the reaper and the spade,
Are numbers of worldly employment,
Bespreading a wealth of every grade,
Fruitful of wealth and enjoyment.

The plow to be seen there is business or all,
If in the right light you will view it;
Remembering always a generous call,
Is only you those who can do it.

Make yourself useful, with plenty to do;
Your labors "were wrong to shun them;
Those emblems of idler are not for the few,
But all who are able to do them.

Be master of something, though common it be;
If useful its worthy devotion,
The glow that comes at the highest degree
Is gained by a hearty promotion.

Some boys in the field, who are welding the hoe,
Be masters of sturdy ambition,
In the end of greatness, are being a row,
That will stand in a higher position.

Be sure, young man, that you "lose your own
A saying of old, with a moral—
To your credit, in the future may show
To your credit,"—as added laurel.

Of business and plenty all joyfully sang,
The world's abundance the day;
That was a bright and happy king,
While a student of the day.

Teaching versus the Art.

BY A. H. HISSMAN.

All who have been in the profession of penmanship many years have seen hundreds of young men engage in practicing the art with firm resolves to excel. Many of these obtain considerable skill with the pen, but are dissatisfied with the moment and vanish. Such are perhaps led into the art by the love of it, and with the hope of securing a success which others seem to gain, yet in their efforts so little encouragement that their once bright hopes disappear and they abandon their pursuit.

After much thought upon the cause of such failures, we are of the opinion that it lies in the almost universal misapprehension of young penmen in believing that success and time will surely come when superior skill is attained. With eyes closed to all that they perceive for the moment of success and fame, and when their skill will compare with that of successful penmen they find that the world owns and should reward them with like success.

Were the attainment of superior skill, only, the price of success, there would be thousands in the profession instead of a handful. The highest success in this world is gained by those who are best able to serve their fellow man. In penmanship those who have been the most famous were those who worked with their very souls to gain ability as teachers. The hundreds who remember Lusk, Spencer and Platt will know that without their mastery ability as teachers they would have never gained their fame. What is true of these men has been true of all who have left names on the roll of fame.

The rising penman is too apt to think that the difference between himself and some famous penman is only a matter of time and skill, and when battered with compliments to their skill, feel that they are making rapid progress to success, and are blind to the development of any ability outside of the absolute control of the pen. To them the science and art of teaching is of small account, yet with those who are achieving success which makes them famous, the learning of methods and development of ability to teach is their highest aim. The young penman says, give me skill. The older one says, give me a better knowledge of methods. How can I teach better? We know that in the work of improving one's self as a teacher by the careful investigation of methods, and ever vigorous work in the classroom, one will gain a knowledge of the art and ability to instruct others in it that will be a power to use in the recognition and support of the pen. Many look around them and say that the country is full of copy-book which supplanted the work of the penman, but in spite of this, we say, that the teacher who possesses a superior knowledge of the art can convince the public that his knowledge of methods and ability to teach will enable him

to far surpass the work done by the limited instruction found in those books.

The fact that the copies preserved in copy-books excel in artistic skill need not discourage one or prevent success, for even the authors will not claim that they contain one-twentieth of the information, as to superior teaching, which they themselves possess. Then to those ambitions to succeed, we would say that success can be attained by all who will choose superior teachers. Knowledge more than skill is required. Ability to make others good penmen, not merely ability as penmen, is necessary to a high degree of success.

People surround a star because it gives off heat and thereby stimulates to them, and the public flock most around the penman who is best able to supply them with skill.

That the art of teaching is something deserving of recognition is shown in the establishment of Normal Schools, wherein each State recognizes that a person to be a teacher requires a special and thorough training.

They do not realize that they should be imparting it to others in requisite to success. Not many months since a young man said to us that nothing should stop his practice but he attained the skill of Lysman Spencer and Mr. Fickinger. A few weeks later we learned that this young man had been dismissed from his excellent position, for the reason that his heart was wholly wrapped up in his practice for skill. He lacked enthusiasm as a teacher, and took little or no interest in the progress of his pupils. To him skill was all, teaching income, and like hundreds of others, had failed to serve the public well, he has vanished from the profession. There is nothing which drags the profession of teaching down like the lack of success of indifferent time-serving teachers. There are not a few who seem to think that because they write well they should be paid liberally to stay in a room with classes of poor writers a few hours per day. They do not realize that they should be alive with enthusiasm and working with their brains to invent methods of illustrating topics and interesting pupils. To be in the presence of a preacher and teacher like Becher to be filled with ideas forced into one through a skill in delivery which he has gained through constant earnest effort. To succeed as a teacher is to be ever in earnest. Earned in the work of investigating and developing methods, and by cheerful, yet vigorous effort, make each hour one wherein one does his best to do that he can for the advancement of the pupils. Rich teachers are always wanted, they always succeed, while those who hope to rise through skill alone are the ones most apt to become discouraged and leave the profession.

Renewal of Subscriptions.

Subscribers who desire to continue to receive the JOURNAL, should not fail to renew their subscriptions, as the Journal in all cases be discontinued at the end of the year, for which the subscription is paid.

Back Numbers

of the JOURNAL can be supplied, beginning with No. 6, of Vol. 1. No prior numbers can be furnished.

FLOURISHED BY JOHN D. WILLIAMS.
(from Williams and Packard's Gems.)

Spice in the Convention.

At the opening of the late Penman's Convention each member as the roll was called, arose in his place, and gave by way of an introduction a short autobiography, which in several cases was quite ingenious and humorous in the manner of its recital so much so as to be well worthy of a place in the column of the JOURNAL, but want of space in the present number prevents our giving more than the following specimen by James H. Lansley, Ph. D., Principal of the Elizabeth (N. J.) Business College.

"More than forty years ago, I first saw the light of day, in Albany, N. Y. At the age of 19 had not received 1 year's schooling and should you converse with me ten minutes, you would doubtless be so impressed with this fact that you would deem it probable I had not attended school since. I am married and have more children than I have dollars in my pocket and can say that I enjoy the presence of the children more than the absence of the dollars. I have had twelve children, seven of whom are not worthy, although I have always bread enough and some to give away. By the way I have given more away than was ever given to me and I am heartily sorry for having given some of it for I received no thanks from the recipients. Now, while I am not rich, I have often been thankful that I was handsome when you see, compensates me for my lack of wealth. I hope to on the sunny side of fifty and have to teach at least twenty years more to enjoy the fruits of what I expect to earn. Having left my impromptu speech at home I am compelled to decline making any further remarks.

The following original poem which he characterized as an "in-birdie," was also read by Dr. Lansley before the convention.

The day we assembled, each told his age,
Of his youth and presents on a stage;
Of struggles in childhood, and manhood's year,
Of labors performed to the care of his dear.
While some were beginners in life and fame,
Some were high up on the ladder of fame,
Stood here in convention, with mounted names.
Ah! my friends, a good name is much to be sought;
With gold or with silver it cannot be bought;
Too easily a virtue, obtained at high cost,
And yet, if unearned, for how easily lost!
The Millennial day will draw very near,
When we dare to do right without fear or fear.
But, back to my subject—some spoke of their lives,
Of high aspirations, their tabors and wives,
Of what some saw and sought—'till a lady rose
Of a moral young man, who had a wife.
He's not a simple man—he is only a poet,
And even may be heartless, though having a heart.
Young man, then I ask you—pay for me advance—
Back some one possessing a soul in her eyes,
And a heart that will stand for no one but you,
And to whom a pocket of diamonds can pay.
You can win her, by friend, you now need fear,
If you have any brains and will persist to.
For if you are married and ask:
You know I am not for yourself, don't you, thank!
But ask I desire—'till no one to ask—
And in my mind, I am sure, I am not ask.

That beautiful ball—light, cherry and airy,
Softly now me to attract a fly.
For he, in the Park, we one you to-day
Much more than a pocket of diamonds can pay.
I venture to say, sir, that all of our can

Approve your exceedingly generous plan
Of seeking the comfort of every man.
Now the officers all, and committees too,
Life savers, have wanted to a man, good and true.
We render our gratitude, every one,
To the managers all, for the good they've done.
If now we are finally, then nothing is lost,
We are fully prepared for the time and cost.
Let each of his neighbor in charity speak—
A ready and sure thing, if asked, will not speak;
If an old lady or you draw by the tail
To smooth out your pathway, you'll certainly fail.
There's a well filled with every and earthly disgrace,
No man who is perfect will seek such a place.
But mark well, my comrades, this rule I may tell,
All those "hook the bucket" who fall in at well.
But listen, for the time is now drawing high
When the last of all will be saying goodbye.
One-by-one, my friends, may we all meet again,
To talk of our old love—the work of the Pen.

Primary Instruction in Penmanship.

Mr. G. H. Shattuck read a paper before the late Penman's Convention, on Primary Instruction in Penmanship, in which he said no branch was more neglected.

That statistics proved that more than half the children in the public schools receive all their school education in the primary departments.

He read extracts from Massachusetts-School Reports, edited by Hon. Horace Mann, and Reports of the New York city schools showing great improvements in methods of instruction in penmanship, in many of the public schools of our large cities, during the last twenty-five years, from which we copy only the following: "Hence Mann says, 'the defect (in teaching writing) may be traced to the deficiencies in the qualifications of teachers.' And from the New York city report for 1877, the following encouraging extract is given: 'Specimens by some of the first grade pupils in the primaries surpass in neatness of style those of which were formerly exhibited by the advanced classes of the grammar grades.'"

He claimed that all pupils not physically incapacitated could become good writers, that they did not, was a just criticism on their teachers. That the itinerant writing masters should be recognized as proper instructors for children after leaving the public schools, and should so qualify themselves that young could from time to time receive instructions under the same teacher.

He summarized the difficulties in the way of better instruction in writing in the primary schools as follows:

First—Normal Schools do not impart methods of teaching writing.
Second—School Boards do not make it a requirement that primary teachers shall have the proper knowledge to impart primary instruction in penmanship.
Third—School Superintendents and Principals do not examine the writing and give credits as in other studies.

Fourth—Writing is not an especial requisite in promotion, and the "writing hour" often taken to secure better results in other branches.

Fifth—Teachers do not bring their instructions down to the capacity of the most incapable pupils.

He would have teachers take this for a motto: Take care of the poor writers. The good ones will take care of themselves.

There were many other points presented bearing directly upon the subject, but more recently, but of sufficient interest to be properly presented in the paper, but space will not allow of more than the brief summary which we here give.



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We hope to make the JOURNAL so interesting and attractive that no penman or teacher who sees it can withhold either his subscription or a good word; and we want them to do more even than that, we desire their active co-operation as correspondents and agents, we therefore offer the following

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NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1878.

The Journal for November

Will be one of unusual attraction and interest. We have the positive promise of specimens for publication from the pen of that prince among penmen, H. W. Pickinger. We shall also publish a very able and interesting review of the life and services of P. R. Spencer, Sr., written for the Penman's Convention, owing to a misdirection it was not received so as to be ready by Mr. Coper, of Kingsville, Ohio, who was at the time the friend and associate of Mr. Spencer. This review will be accompanied with a new and excellent portrait cut of Mr. Spencer.

We have several other very interesting articles promised and in hand sufficient, in all, to warrant us in saying that that number will be one of the most interesting and valuable yet issued. We expect, also, to print the latest edition of that number of any general interest—probably as early as 15,000. Specimen copies will be mailed to every educational institute in the United States, and to a large list of school officers and other persons interested in education and not subscribers, which will render it exceptionally valuable as a medium of advertisement. We shall insert in each of the next two pages of advertisements at our regular rates. No discounts for that number can be made. Parties desiring space should apply early.

Hints upon Teaching Writing.

To be able to awaken, and maintain earnest thought and study, on the part of the pupil, and skillfully direct the same, is a paramount qualification for successful teaching. Indeed the power to do this is the real secret of the wonderful success that has attended the labors and immortalized the names of our greatest teachers, not of writing alone, but of all departments of education. The interested and attentive pupil is always a success, while the indifferent pupil is a certain failure; the former seems almost to drink in knowledge, while the latter receives it as by force. Many teachers of writing rely mainly upon the imitative power of pupils for their success which is a fatal error; writing should be taught mechanically more than by imitation.

An imitative pupil may manifest remarkable progress, and be able to imitate with the greatest fidelity the most perfect copy, so long as it is before him, and yet write most awkwardly when it is removed, from the fact that there remains no correct mental conception or ideal of writing to guide his practice; not so with the pupil who has been taught mechanically, and has learned the correct analysis of each letter, studied its form and construction, at the same time that the errors in his own writing have been criticised and corrected according to established rules and principles—though he may at the outset be greatly distressed by the imitative genius—he will, in the end, become much the more skillful. The removal of the copy matters little to him, its form having become so completely impressed upon his mind that it continues, as it were, constantly before him, a perfect ideal, to reproduce which his hand will ever strive, and ultimately attain. Writing, in all its grace, ease, and perfection, must first clearly exist in the mind, before the hand can, by any amount of exercise, be taught to produce it. The hand can never transcribe a form more perfect or beautiful than the ideal of its master—the mind. Hence, the vital importance of preceding and accompanying all practice in writing, with a careful study of its mechanical construction. The exercise or copy for each lesson should be short, embracing but a few letters; and they should be systematically arranged so as to present, forcibly and consistently at each lesson, some important feature of writing.

Our own method of instruction has been to use copies, carefully written or printed, upon short, movable-slips, the length of each not exceeding one-fourth of the width of a sheet of foolscap, thus concentrating the attention and practice of the pupil upon a few principles and letters at a time. At the opening of each lesson, one of these slips would be passed to each pupil of the class, then written upon the black board and carefully analyzed, first by the teacher, then by the class. The pupil will thus not only gain a correct conception of the proper form and construction of letters, but he thereby supplied with standards and measures by which to gauge and test the quality and accuracy of his own writing, in short enable him to become his own critic. General criticisms would be made during each lesson, at the board, upon the writing of the class and individuals without being personal, in which would be presented by the most ingenious and striking illustrations possible, the essential faults of each writing, and most conspicuous faults in each writing.

For instance, we would say to the

class that one may learn to make every letter perfectly, and yet be a very bad writer, which would be most strikingly illustrated by writing a word upon the board, in which every letter, taken by itself, should be as nearly faultless as possible, but very disproportionate in size, thus:

Auction

At the next lesson illustrate the bad effect of uneven spacing, thus:

communication

At the following lesson we would present the special beauty of a variety of slant in writing, thus:

Willing

Slant, though quite different, will not be specially conspicuous in the contracted letters, but may be made to appear strikingly so by drawing extended lines through the parts of the letters, thus:

Will

At one of the early lessons should be illustrated, by means of a scale, the relative heights of letters, thus:

Standard

This method practiced through a course of even twenty lessons, will not fail to secure to the pupil not only satisfactory improvement, but will establish him on a basis upon which he can continue to practice and improve indefinitely.

It will, of course, be understood that what we have said relative to the use of movable slips applies only to professional teachers, and to special writing classes, not to schools, public or private, where it is found most convenient and practical to use copy books.

The Unparalleled Progress of Writing during the Past Twenty-five Years.

The improvements made in the art of writing and methods of imparting instruction, in this country during the past twenty-five years has probably had no parallel in any other country or age.

This extraordinary advancement has been the result of several causes. 1st.—The rapid growth of trade and commerce, demanded greater celerity and ease in writing, thus was practiced with the old shaded round hand, written with the finger movement, which was the prevailing style twenty-five years ago.

2d. The sharp rivalry, between the several authors and publishers of the leading systems of writing.

3d. The fierce competition between the numerous commercial or business colleges.

4th. The discovery of the various photographic methods for reproducing pen drawings upon plain stone and lead for printing, whereby the pen work is essentially the engraving, thus enlarging the penman's sphere of labor, and offering a larger reward for his skillful work.

Twenty-five years ago Spencer was just beginning to win fame, while unfolding his almost transcendent genius, as a knight of the quill, in his long career (deceased) at Geneva, O. The Dandies and Dandies were winning their first laurels at Boston; E. T. Folger at Cleveland, O.; Pay at Pittsburgh, Pa.; Critchfield at Philadelphia, Pa.; and George W. Eastman, of Rochester, N. Y., a splendid penman, and the originator of

the system of actual business training in Business Colleges, were then leading off in the grand commercial college movement; they were soon followed by Bell, Bryant, Stratton, Packard, and others.

The system of writing, as we now or monotonously advanced, taught by Prof. Spencer, soon gained wide popular celebrity, and pupils came to his log cabin from far and near. All of them became active and most of them skillful disciples, and taught—or advocated "Spencerian" with a degree of enthusiasm and skill, which did honor alike to their own faith, and the skillful instruction of their master, and from among them have been many of our most noted and most successful teachers.

Prof. Spencer soon published his system, but it so imperfect a form as to give little satisfaction or honor to its author. It was engraved on stone and printed in form of copy slips, but very soon after was published in form of copy books. About the same time the Payson, Dutton & Scribner, system was published at Boston; for several years these systems were local in their use, the P. D. S. being generally

generally regarded as the leading system in New England, while the Spencerian held sway, and spread rapidly through the West, though both were imperfect. They each had peculiar merits, and their fame and use rapidly extended, until their spheres met, then began the most energetic and often acrimonious rivalry. The agents and friends of one system would often (in their own judgment—at least) annihilate the other by pointing out the most common and fatal deficiencies, in this manner, while to their mutual astonishment, neither was annihilated, both rapidly learned wisdom from the criticisms of their rivals, and both systems were immediately revised, neither losing anything by the peculiar merit of the other. Each system counted among its friends and associated authors, many of the most skillful and industrious, teachers, and as revision has followed revision, each system has been continually improved, by the criticisms of rivals, while such new merits as could be suggested by the most skillful and experienced teachers, aided by equally skillful engravers have been added, until now both systems seem faultless. Nor has the strife of competition been limited to these two leading systems, many others have enhanced the fight with their presence; among the more prominent of which are the Ellsworth, Foster & Hammond, Williams & Packard, Thompson's (Electric series) Babingtons, and others too numerous to mention. All have been in the strife, and have no doubt each contributed something toward the astonishing progress and improvement which we see as the result.

Scarcely less favorable and effective for substantial progress in writing, has been the influence exerted by the numerous commercial or business colleges of the country; especially is this true of Quakerism, and the Friends (Epistle series) institutions. Fine penmanship has generally been a desideratum, and in the many sharp rivalries which have occurred among the different representatives of these institutions, the relative display of skillful penmanship, more frequently than any other, has been the test for excellence and popularity of the institution.

The most elaborate and skillful specimens have been executed, almost without number, not only to adorn the rooms of the colleges, but for public exhibition and competition at fairs, and other centres of attraction. In some instances celebrated pen artists have been employed for long periods of time almost exclusively to execute specimens for this purpose. John D. Williams was so employed by the Bryant & Stratton chain of colleges, no link of which was ever found to be properly equipped without having one or more specimens from his matchless pen; these specimens became at once a high standard for emulation and imitation, but not to be ex-

celled by the pupils and teachers of penmanship throughout the country, and have thus exerted a wide and powerful influence upon the style and degree of excellence attained in this department of penmanship.

Subsequently the publication of the Williams & Pachera gens, continued still more to advance the standard of Ornamental Penmanship, by furnishing the teacher and pupil with a more full, ready and practical guide, than any hitherto placed before them. As the outgrowth of all this rivalry and competition, we have not only several of the most perfect, beautiful and practical systems of writing in the world, but a larger number of skillful writers and teachers than has blessed any other age or people, in place of a single Spencer we now have several, while scattered all over the country are scores of penmen, whose present skill would, to say the least, have been astonishing twenty-five years ago.

Ornamental Penmanship.

Formerly, and until within a few years, the entire scope and purpose of Ornamental Penmanship was limited to striking a few off hand flourishes, in form of an eagle, swan, quill, or other simple figure, for the sole purpose of amusing and attracting patrons. This, with text lettering, was all that was necessary or desirable.

But more recently, and since the extensive introduction of the various methods of reproduction of pen and ink work by photography, the demand for elaborate and perfect penmanship, as well as the incentive for its execution, has been largely increased. Now the skillful penman practically becomes an engraver, and finds a ready demand for his skill in the execution of elaborate and artistic designs for all commercial purposes. This new demand opens to the really skillful penman a well-nigh unlimited field for profitable labor, but while the demand is great, it is most exacting as regards merit. Work executed for the purpose of reproduction must have certain qualities of line and character, or it fails. It must also be of high artistic merit, to withstand the criticism and test to which it is subjected, since it at once enters in direct competition with the various kinds of engraving, and must have nearly equal perfection and artistic merit, or it is at once rejected, and the labor of the artist is lost.

Under the stimulus of this new demand we anticipate seeing a very marked and rapid development of the penman's art and skill, certainly there is now no field for artistic labor more inviting or promising for success.

Business Correspondence

We invite special attention to the admirable address, on our first and second pages, upon "Business Correspondence" delivered before the late "Penman's Convention" in New York by Prof. L. L. Spangue, Principal of the Wyoming Commercial College, Kingston, Pa. This is a subject of great importance, and one in which all persons are more or less interested, while the excellent, interesting and effective manner in which Professor Spangue presents the various points in his subject, will serve to make his address very interesting reading matter.

Apology.

A large number of valuable communications and articles have been received for which it is impossible to find space in the present issue. We shall again, having sufficient merit, a place as soon as possible.

Obituary.

Prof. James B. Cundiff, vice-principal of Soule's Commercial College, New Orleans, La., died September 15, at the age of thirty-three years. Mr. Cundiff was a native of Owensburg, Ky. He was a skillful writer and popular teacher. He was prominent as a Master Mason, and Knights Templar, both of which fraternities were largely represented at his funeral. He leaves a large circle of warm friends.

Mr. Cundiff was a zealous friend, and earnest worker for the JOURNAL, having forwarded the names of over one hundred subscribers within a year past, and the largest number sent by any one person during that period.

Inquiry.

Can any of our readers furnish us with information regarding the whereabouts of James A. Congdon. About one year since we executed work for him, and gave credit for engraving and printing to a considerable amount, since which time we have failed to receive any communication from him, or information concerning him.

If he has deceased, we desire to commemorate him by appropriate obituary notice; if he is living in obscurity,

The Writing-Class.

By J. W. PATSON.
No. 1.

Let us enter the Primary Department in one of the busy beehives of education, in this or some other city, and, sprinkled, with the teacher's kind permission, the introduction of writing among pupils, whose flexible fingers, and soft, pliant muscles, are quite ready for training and practice. We shall assume this to be the first presentation of the subject. Let this opening exercise be purely conversational and illustrative.

I should first inquire of the children, How many of you could tell your parents or friends what you have done in school to-day? All say they could. How many of you could tell this to your parents or friends, if they were away from you? All say they could not. Would you like to be able to tell about what you are doing, or about what is taking place, to those who are absent? All say they would. Well, I am going to teach you how to do this; but, first, let us have a little talk about it. What is that your teacher has in her hand? They answer, "A book." Will you tell me some thing about the book? George says, "It has red covers." Susan says, "It is a small book. You have told me that your teacher has a small red book. When you said 'book,' 'red,' and 'small,' you made sounds, which meant book, red and small. I will now make on the blackboard some signs which you all know.

I then write in Roman letters the word book.

ing, you use the voice and mouth; in writing, you use the hand and arm.

In the next lesson I will teach you how to sit when writing, how to hold your pen or pencil, how to place your writing-tablet, or copy-book, and begin to teach you how to make letters.

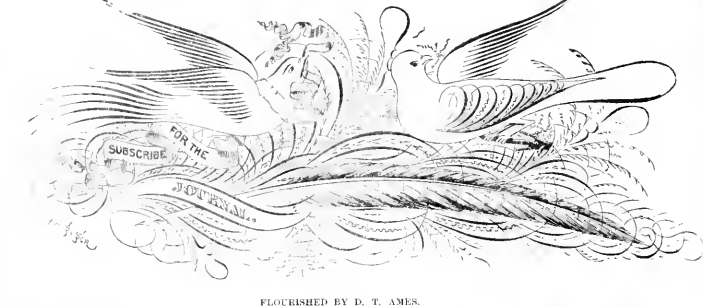
If a portion of each lesson was spent in conversational exercise about, and in blackboard illustration of, writing, before setting out with pen or pencil, it would well repay the effort. The children should be given appropriate finger-exercises for a few moments previous to writing. Extending and contracting the fingers, separating and drawing them together, and five-finger piano exercises, practiced on the desk, will help develop and train the muscles used in writing.

Make these little pupils, Teacher, fairly hungry for the task, and eager to begin it. Be sure they know what it is they are doing; why they are doing it; and how it is to be done.—
Primary Teacher.

(To be continued.)

The Special Attention

of teachers, card writers, authors, and proprietors of business colleges is invited to the advantage of inserting a standing index-card of three lines in the first column of the JOURNAL. Its circulation is now so large and its influence so great, that the neighborhood of all persons in the United States or Canada. The charge is small, and can hardly fail of being many times repaid.



FLOURISHED BY D. T. AMES.

ty we would shed the refulgence of our light upon the darkness that enshrouds him.

College Currency

We are now getting up a series of bank notes for use in Business College banks. The bills will be printed on a good quality of bank-note paper, and got up in an attractive style. Parties desiring to replenish their currency, or procure an entirely new outfit, are requested to send for samples, and estimates, also, for certificates, diplomas, display cuts, etc.

Proceedings of the Penman's Convention

We have on hand several hundred copies of the September No. of the JOURNAL, containing the report of the proceedings of the Convention. Single copies sent on receipt of 10c. 15 copies, \$1.00. 50 copies, \$3.00.

Teaching versus Skill

All young penmen who aspire to fame and success in their profession should twice read, carefully, the article by Prof. Hinman, under the above caption, on page three. He happily presents solid facts and sound advice.

Our Thanks

Are due, and hereby tendered, to Mr. J. T. Granger, Miss Lottie Hill, Prof. C. E. Cady, and Mr. Miller, for verbatim reports of remarks and addresses at the Penman's Convention.

Children, what do you see on the blackboard? They answer, "Book." But is this thing the same thing which you saw in your teacher's hand? "No." Does this mean the same thing? "Yes." Now, if I write this word before it (writing the word red in Roman letters), what will it mean? "Red book." I next write a small before it, in the same characters. What does it mean now? "A small, red book." Now, children, the words which I wrote on the blackboard mean the same things as the words you just spoke. There are two ways of using words,—speaking them, and writing them. Will some scholar spell about the word red? Harry spells, "R-e-d." How many sounds did Harry use in spelling the word red? "Three." How many letters did I use in writing the word red? "Three." You see that the spoken words are made up of single letters. Speaking, then, is telling what we think by the use of certain sounds; and writing, is telling what we think by the use of letters. These letters are signs of the spoken sounds.

Will you now give me some short words to write on the blackboard? The children pelt me with words faster than I can write them. I put down, in Roman letters, *rose, he, blue, boy, girl*. Did you think these things before you spoke them? "Yes." I now add one or two short words to the above-written, and call upon the pupils to read the phrases aloud. They read, "A white rose." "A honey-bee." "The blue sky." Did I think these words before I wrote them? "Yes." Then children, you spoke what you thought, and I wrote what I thought,—what you think can be either spoken or written. You have already learned to speak what you think; you must now learn to write what you think. In speak-

Answers to



ing, you use the voice and mouth; in writing, you use the hand and arm.

No communication unaccompanied with the full name and address of the writer will be noticed, or answered in this or any other column of the JOURNAL.

Authors and printers, who are not of general interest to the readers be answered, criticism upon writing be given to say but subscribers or patrons of the JOURNAL.

Signatures upon which criticism is invited should be written on a note or letter sheet, in the writers' best and most careful style, none other, and certainly no postal card will receive attention.

B. F. M. Culler's Cove, Cal. Your writing is very good, but it has the set stiff, school boy appearance, which you can overcome only by careful and prolonged practice, you need to practice free arm movement exercises, there is a manifest hesitancy in your movements, especially when you attempt the large capital letters, your spacing is quite unusual, with a little careful attention to the movement, and your minor faults, you can render your writing first-class.

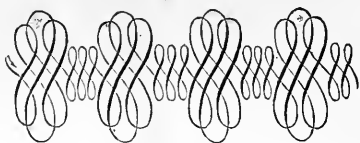
A. G. Parkersburg, W. Va., asks us to give what we consider the best method of teaching penmanship in public schools in a city where there are eight to ten rooms in the several buildings. That is a question of great importance, and cannot be briefly answered.

Prof. Payne begins to answer that question in our present number, and will continue the same in each consecutive number. We will, we will, we will fully and satisfactorily answered.

J. F. W. Post Charlotte, Vt. We have no choice between the system you mention, we do not know where the pens you mention can be had. Your writing has considerable merit. It lacks system, your loops are too thin and slacking. It is irregular in size and does not follow the line, read editorial "Hints on teaching Writing," on the fourth page.

EXERCISES FOR FLOURISHING.

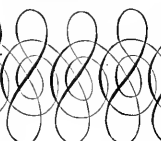
No. 9.



No. 10.



No. 11.



F. N. H. The principal fault with your writing is its uneven spacing, and a tendency to bring your capitals below the line, this results from the fact that you use the "muscular movement only" in making your capitals and it is not sufficiently practiced to be fully at your command. We would advise you to practice it more in your small letters, read editorial on fourth page, entitled "Hints on Teaching Writing."

C. O. S., Hanson, Pa. How many systems of penmanship are there in the 'U. S.' at present? We could not say how many, we know of nineteen authors of copy books, now in use, and five of compendiums, undoubtedly there are more. Not more than five or six of these can lay well founded claims to any distinct system, many are almost without system, others are simply re-arranged or compiled from other systems.

What do you consider the best manner of giving instruction in normal schools? Would you use copy books? In answer to this question, we cannot do better than to refer the writer to our editorial in another column, entitled "Hints upon teaching Writing."

O. J. W., Varaville, Cal. You write a very correct hand, it is rather too large and unevenly spaced. A little careful study and practice would bring your writing to a creditable standard for a teacher. See editorial upon "Hints on Teaching Writing," fourth page.

T. N. B., Woodstock, N. Y. We can furnish all back numbers of the Journal, from and including September 1877, (No. 6, Vol. I.) They will be sent by regular subscription rates.

F. J. S., Jewett City, Conn. We do not know the present address of M. B. Worthington. J. C. Mullins, is at Evansville, Ind.



M. E. B., New York. who is teaching writing at Schenectady, N. Y., writes a handsome letter in which he includes, with skillful flourishing by himself, a specimen flourished by one of his pupils, Master Orford, which for a boy only nine years of age is very valuable.

J. S. V., Harrington, Rochester, N. Y. sends one of the best specimens of rapid writing received during the month, he is now permanently located at Rochester, New York. As a good writer, he has few equals.

N. G. & E. L., Cameron, students at Mass. Inst. of Technology, Ill. Business College, send packages of very handsomely written cards.

E. B. Davis, Jewett City, Conn. writes an easy graceful, and business like letter, in which he includes several well written cards.

R. L. Macdonald, Principal of the Great City Business College, Quincy, Ill. sends an elegant set of old-hand capitals.

H. N. Kiddle, Union, New York writes a graceful letter in which he includes several well executed and specimens.

M. L. Bennett, Schenectady, N. Y. forward an elaborate and well executed specimen complimentary to the Journal.

Berlin Vesper, Memphis, N. Y. includes several attractive card specimens.

E. S. Collins, Charlotte, N. C. sends specimens of plain and flourished cards.

A. Smith, Port Kennedy, Pa. sends an elaborately flourished card specimen.



Stephen Howland who has for some time past been with E. Spencer, at Cleveland, Ohio, and who is one of the best writers in the country is now at Sandy Hill, New York, he is open for an engagement to teach writing.

F. F. P. Drentz proposes to spend the fall and winter teaching writing in Texas, he is a fine writer and successful teacher, we wish him success in his new field of labor.

Water C. Hooker, one of the most skillful writers and popular teachers in New York, is teaching large classes in the Western part of the State.

H. W. Warren is teaching large classes of writing at St. Albans, N. H. Mr. Warren is a fine writer, and is highly complimented by St. Albans High School.

Mr. Harrell, the veteran penman of Cincinnati, O., favored us with a call recently, he is still an able writer and writes fine work.

B. F. Engle is teaching writing, at the Union University High School, Westchester, Tenn.

A. A. Clark is teaching at the B. and S. Chicago Business College.



The Columns (N.) *Statesman* of Sept. 2d, gives a somewhat lengthy and highly complimentary review of the Columns Business College, conducted for twelve years past, by Prof. E. K. Bryant.

"One can scarcely enter a bank or business house in Columbus without finding one or more graduates of this excellent college. The prospect for a good advertisement at the opening of the fall term is flattering to the management, and gratifying alike to Mr. Bryant and his numerous well-wishers. There are no false inducements held out, and it is a source of satisfaction for us to be able to say that the institution is in every way worthy of the confidence of the public."

J. E. Soule, principal of the Bryant and Stratton Philadelphia, (Pennsylvania), Business College, has associated with him Prof. H. W. Flickinger, and as will be seen by an announcement in the advertising columns, has opened a special department, for instruction in the higher grades of penmanship. Both Messrs. Soule and Flickinger deserve credit among the very first of skillful penmen and teachers in this country. The facilities thus offered, for valuable instruction, by their combined skill and experience, can hardly be equalled elsewhere.

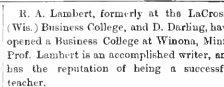
During a recent visit to Philadelphia we visited the Union Business College conducted by Prof. Thos. May Pierce, whom we found, smiling and happy, in the enjoyment of a larger degree of prosperity than had been experienced before in seven years. Prof. Soule of the B. and S. Business College also reported a largely increased patronage.

F. A. Leblin, principal of Leblin's Business College, Memphis, Tenn., died in a few days since. He was obliged by the ravages of the yellow fever to close his college, which was previously in a prosperous condition. It will not return until the fever has disappeared.

The twentieth annual announcement and catalogue of "Packard's Business College" has been received. It is a work of good taste and common sense in advertising. We are glad to learn that the institution has opened this season with a largely increased patronage.

The Deavenport Iowa College Circular is a very tasty gotten up sheet. The college is conducted by Dr. H. L. Bridge and J. H. H. Valantine. Mr. Lahrbaugh enjoys the reputation of being one of the most accomplished penmen in the west.

J. C. McClellan announces this opening of the City City Business College, Columbus, Ohio. Mr. McClellan is assisted by M. B. Cooper.



R. A. Lambert, formerly at the LaCrosse (Wis.) Business College, and D. Darling, have opened a Business College at Wadena, Minn. Prof. Lambert is an accomplished writer, and has the reputation of being a successful teacher.

The Cash Book issued by W. L. Blackman, of the Allentown (Pa.) Business College, is one of the most decidedly attractive and readable college papers that has come into our hands.

Attractive and business-like circulars with specimens have been received from Messrs. Howe and Powers, the enterprising proprietors of the Metropolitan Business College, Chicago, Ill.

The Bryant and Stratton Commercial School of Boston, under charge of Prof. Hibbard, continues to give a remarkable degree of well-earned property.

Lambert's (Elizabeth, N. J.) Business College journal, is spicy and interesting, and indicates that its publisher is on the auany side of prosperity.

In the November number of the JOURNAL Prof. Flickinger will manifest his skill through a specimen from his pen.

Exchange Items.

The Home Grant for September, is of unusual interest, especially the Penman's Department, which is well edited and full of interesting matter, it gives conclusive evidence that its new editor, Professor H. B. McGraw, Principal of the New York Business College by no means misdox his calling when he entered the editorial field.

The Penman's Help published by William Clark, Toledo, Iowa, dated September 25th, is received. It is improving in appearance and contents. But although announced as semi-monthly, it comes to us about every other month, why are we thus slighted, friend Clark?

The Royal Writer and Telegrapher published bi-monthly by D. P. Lindley, 212 E. 23rd street, New York, is a fifty-page magazine devoted to short-hand writing.

Brown's Photographic Monthly, published by L. D. Scott Brown, 737 Broadway, comes as usual, well filled with matter pertaining to photography and photographers.

The Tusculum Transcriber Record, is an eight page paper well filled with interesting matter.

60 Barclay street, New York, Sept. 30, 1878.

I hereby certify that I printed 10,000 copies of the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL for the month of September.

HENRY NICHOLS,

Printer.

This is to certify that I furnished paper for 10,000 copies of the PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL, for September.

HENRY LIVENHEIMER,
15 & 17 Beekman st.

Experiences in Learning to Write.

BY "CARTRIDGE."

Experience is said to be a good teacher, and from a personal knowledge of the fact we are forced to believe that it is about as expensive as it is good. Our experience covers a period of two years, most of the time being spent in common schools, consequently we know something concerning penmanship in our common schools, and in that part of the country (Pennsylvania) is a specimen of the remainder, must admit that penmanship is making rapid progress—in the wrong direction.

We have had the pleasure of being instructed in the art by no less than fifteen of these teachers. Every teacher had a system (?) of his own, and the "methods of instruction" were of the most varied and original kind. Human could not boast to equal some of them, and as for variety we do not believe the "Convention" can boast of half the variety we had, but, "Variety is the spice of life," and we presume it is equally true of penmanship.

Practice was the remedy applied to all the disorders of penmanship, for practice, moreover, position, pen-holding, etc. were passed over as unworthy of the hasty attention, and as for material, every one had the grand privilege of selecting to suit their individual case. All of our spare money went to buy writing material to practice with, but the only persons benefited by this persistent practice was—the Manufacturers. How long a state of affairs might have continued, had not kind providence thrown a combination of self-instruction in our path and thus shown us the error of our practice, we are not prepared to say, but we had made an important discovery, namely, "Practice makes perfect," if you know how to practice.

Our next venture was to take a little flourishing at a normal school, in connection with the other studies, but we have learned since that we did not succeed very well, although at that time we intended to contribute a specimen of our homely (?) work to Prof. Ames's Compendium. The reason we failed was because our teacher did not hold us in check on the principles, and herein is just where many fail. Master principles first, then more complicated forms. Like Robinson Crusoe we were bent on our own destruction for next we were captured by the "Great Engrossing Stamp," and put through a course of egg-shaped forms, straight and crooked lines according to his peculiarly original mode of torture. Somehow his "torture" helped us along more than all of the other systems and methods combined. We also received some substantial aid in flourishing, and was carried through a severe attack of the "drier" (the old "hook") "fever" and the "drier" "fever." Those who have flourished their first drier will understand what the "fever" is.

In conclusion we would advise those desiring to learn to go to a good teacher or use—

WOMING COM'S COLLEGE,

Kingston, Pa., Sept. 17, 1878.

PROF. D. T. AMES, New York.

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find check, \$12.50, for which please enter our card in the Journal. Send me your Compendium (which we offer as a premium to the best of our writing specimens) and also your subscription for the Journal, to begin with the September number. This list is only a beginning, and will be augmented from time to time.

The worthy Secretary of the "Business College Teachers' and Penmen's Association," Mr. Soule, has set an excellent example in sustaining the interests of the Journal even in his communication in the September number. It ought to be followed by every Business College principal and teacher of penmanship in the country. There is no reason why we should not roll up the subscription list of the Journal sufficiently to enable the manager to type printed dress, suit and card-stand from any lack of substantial support.

Hoping at an early day to hear that thirty thousand names are upon its list, I remain yours very fraternally,

D. L. SRAOUC.

205 Broadway, New York

THE PENMAN'S JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICAL AND THE ORNAMENTAL IN PENMANSHIP.

EXECUTED WITH A PEN BY DEAMES.

Published Monthly, at 205 Broadway, for \$1.00 per Year.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER, 1878.

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W. F. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

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NEW ENGLAND CARD CO.,
BLANK CARDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
Samples, Prices Free. Woonsocket, R. I.

HILL'S MANUAL OF SOCIAL AND BUSINESS FORMS,
Penmanship, plain, ornamental, and a vast fund
of useful information.

W. H. SHEPARD, Publisher, 715 Broadway, N. Y.

A Brief Delimitation of the Character, Abilities, Labor and Works of FLATT R. SPENCER, Author of Spencerian Penmanship.

BY WILLIAM F. COOPER.

Mr. Spencer was a trifle above medium size, compactly built, firm and heavy in the shoulders; his frame was close and well put up; his muscles well developed and of excellent quality; he was never fleshy, never lean. Possessed by organization of a fine development of teeth, lungs, and all other parts that give vital ability, endurance and force, he was in all things well balanced, and thus favored with what we call a vigorous and sound constitution—one that could bear either labor or hardship for a long period of time. His temperance was below, sanguine and nervous, the nervous in the ascendant, but so tempered by organization that there was no haste, no flush, no incoherency either in passion, thought, labor or action. Always self-possessed, always deliberate, always master of himself, he could have not only born every pang of the best account, but by his will could temperance in all things control others, and begot in them that aspirations, properly modified by severity of mind and manner so marked in all of his bearing and conduct from day to day.

Mr. Spencer's brain was very large, forward on the sides, the full and fine development of the frontal anterior brain was very high and tall, towering and well rounded up, few heads being higher in this region. *Imitation and Recollection* were very large, while upon the anterior sides the full and fine development, nowhere deficient, showed taste, idleness, wit, music, and most especially invention, potent and ruling forces in the always working and lively mind. His moral faculties were also in no respect inferior to the intellectual. There might be but little flash, bluster and enthusiasm in his religion,

but rather a composed and exalted meekness about it which always gave a high moral tone to his whole bearing with men, and a subtle but deep impression of piety and devotion in his daily communion with his maker and his God. His social nature was in nothing wanting. A true, warm and steadfast friend, a most excellent neighbor, a good citizen, a devoted and loving husband, and a father (we might say if such a thing is possible) without a fault.

Mr. Spencer might have been a lawyer, a minister, a doctor, or a farmer, but his taste, his passion, his aptitude was not in this direction. He assuredly had abundant talent for *authorship*. He was by nature a poet, wanting neither feeling, emotion, imagination or invention, but he was as much, perhaps as any man ever is, born an artist, to form and develop the beautiful, not in colors, but in shape. He had the genius for sculpture. Accident drew his mind in the direction of one branch of art which supplied him to do with the every day necessities of the world. He reached out and grasped the subject of Penmanship; he found it with a certain status, and in development stationary; he said to himself intuitively, "I will not only make this art more beautiful, but more practical, truer; I will recreate English chirography. I shall be more beautiful than any other, and still it shall be just as practical as any other in the world."

Mr. Spencer did not *create* letters; he did not originate English Penmanship, but after observation, reflection, and practically trying about all imaginary forms, he began to classify, group, harmonize and systematize. The result as early as 1838 was, "Spencer's Business and Ladies Writing," and I will say Spencer's "Course Hand."

In 1838, I saw him write, and became possessed of a full illustration of his work. There was not behind it any other like it in the world. His "Course Hand" was as much his own as the rest.

His mode of *teaching* was also, as a method, new. I will here say that, like his writing, it was not only strongly impressed with originality, but I have never seen another man or woman who could fairly reproduce either his teaching or writing, but thousands approach him in each. Each also loses and supplies something himself. But who exerts or surpasses? It is to me immaterial who; I glory in every man's success. We all know that in teaching there are many methods, instrumentalities, &c., &c. Mr. Spencer used some of which he was not, and did not claim to be, author. Others are since introduced, also good. Different teachers use different methods in part new and original.

As a teacher, considering the man, the manner, the model, the illustration, the mode in full, by which I mean his method individualized. I believed him to be one of the best, yes, I will say the best teacher in the world, and more follow him to-day as a model or author, than all other teachers of the Art put together. Still I know hosts of men and women who are excellent in this line, of whose ability any man might be proud.



PLATT R. SPENCER, Founder of Spencerian Penmanship.

There were but few steady workers as Mr. Spencer. His whole composition drew not only all profit from labor, but his happiness was in work.

The creative and polishing power could not be left idle; he lived in *progress*, hence he could not be expected to be satisfied to merely imitate, reproduce. This specialty furnished a field for the best of his genius.

As a rule, Mr. Spencer improved what he touched. It was, therefore for him, fortunate that he found an Art at hand ready for a new modeling—another just like him to-day, this Art could not give a business. Still the Art is not exhausted. I have heard writers say they had exhausted the resources of their Art. You might as well attempt to exhaust the creative power of God. No, there are other and new departures in this and every Art. There is in practical writing the spiritual and the scientific. The spiritual is exhaustless.

Mr. Spencer's letters are pictures; and the whole grouping a succession of pictures. I would therefore advise all pupils of Mr. Spencer to study, most of all, the spirit of his work. I am not aware that Mr. Spencer ever claimed to have developed ornamental penmanship as a whole. To his work, however, there was a style his own. This was true of Tracy, Williams, Cowley and a host of others. Many are, however, merely imitative.

It is not my province here to discuss styles of ornamental Penmanship. I will say of the styles of the artists, the style of each has its excellence. I would also say this of Mr. Spencer's. But his passion was not in this direction. He found practical writing defective; he corrected and revolutionized this work, together with his continual professional labor, absorbed all energies until his death.

I will here speak of his *liberality*. I might almost say that there was no end to his liberality in his Art. This was true of him from first to last. Of course to supply the demand of his generosity required incessant and ever increasing labor. Mr. Spencer's penmanship of teaching received its direction from the peculiar nature of the man. His first object was to attach his pupils to both his art and himself. His whose manner was persuasive, attractive, genial, friendly.

There was a silent, subtle, magnetic influence surrounding him always that won the pupil's love, sympathy, friendship. Then his great hope and faith in labor was infectious. His grand script thrown liberally about very soon inspired on all sides enthusiasm. I do not say that other men do not successfully employ these agencies—no, I only say that Mr. Spencer used them in a greater degree. There was no method of introducing, illustrating or carrying through a lesson or a course of lessons of which I ever heard, and there was no style of writing with which I ever became acquainted that *did not understand*. (This is no disparagement to others. There is many a man invents what other men will improve in use. Each may claim credit for his own particular excellencies.)

If we consider the temper, quality and heat of Mr. Spencer's mind at 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, and if we rightly comprehend the interpretation of these, we should see that first he could not remain a copyist. Invention was a ruling faculty with him. Second, The systems and methods of his time or those before published could not be acceptable to his genius. We are told that he was a compiler and no more. He was not a compiler. He critically looked through penmanship as he found it, and his mind or taste gave no assent to its forms. He produced from the beginning, the genius of his own system. This was true of every part of what became his penmanship. This through, experience, trial and practice and invention went steadily on about 1838 and the work was complete. He did often counsel with other penmen, and study the books, but not to copy or borrow, just to fortify a choice from his own work. There was in his own script complete, a standard in truth, of every letter large or small. These, to make, to group, and put together, took time and study. When he was done, his capitals were a finished work and the body of the writing just as much so. Until he produced these capitals, they did not exist, and no odds by how many copied, published, or claimed, they are and must be his forever.

It is just as true of his writing, it is a unity as much as the mind was his that conceived first. Now, how should it be explained and taught. He tried a variety of methods; some wholly new, some mixed. He settled upon a standard method. It was many new, and was *his*, what was borrowed was but a drop in the bucket. I never doubted that his method was just as perfect as his writing. But other men might diverge from his method widely, and I do not doubt that these departures under the circumstances, are good, and for these the country is under obligations to them, but still I say *his* method for him was the best for him, and as a national standard the best that was possible, in my opinion.

I cannot speak for others, but for myself I would hold this *authorship as sacred*, and guard it as I would his grave. Spencer knew the value of his work; he knew that it cost him forty years of his life, of toil, study and persistent sacrifice. It was bound to be *National*. Beauty like truth can never die. If God Almighty determined that Mr. Platt R. Spencer should produce the handwriting of a nation, I am not the man to attempt to strike down the decree of Fate.

No! rather to the immortality of letters

and his art, and the grand thought which can never die, I would add the color and the immortality of marble. I would gladly add my humble mite on and to the last, to hold his precious legacy to as the people up to them for acceptance, and feel that I was, while helping them, only doing justice to the mighty dead.

Still, I do not forget the rights of the staunch supporters of George—Lusk, Rice, Warren Spencer, R. C. Spencer, Folsom, G. W. Eastman and hosts of others; those men all of whom could easily be in any galaxy without borrowed light, both friends of Mr. Spencer and the public; by serving him served them; men all of original merit, and extraordinary skill and energy. They not only did their friend and author justice, but were each, after his own manner, benefactors of the nation. Mr. Spencer felt his obligations to his friends, but when, after all, we consider that this was not for him, or them, but their country, for learning, for art and for time, it was only a common service for our common home, to us all forever.

But however much I might admire the grand creations of Mr. Spencer's genius, and the charming skill of which it was the source, and that drew me most to him, it was that manhood was in him glorified. It was the symmetry and fullness of all parts of his character: wanting nothing intellectually, morally, and physically. I know there was no labor of his life which was not done skillfully and well.

But I loved more, that, which was *Spencer himself*. A noble man!—not by men's ordination, but by God himself. It was, therefore, with the deepest sorrow that I saw the incomparable partner of his being, his life and his lot, taken away from him just as great labor, years, and wisdom and responsibility of life began to grow heavy upon him. I knew how much he loved, how much he was bound up in this woman; what she was to him in all, sympathy, everything—Why should she be taken away?

He finished his work alone, but under a cloud. The day had been clear, the sun, the moon, and the year the sum of nearly all successive winters.

His new rests from his labor. That peculiar creative work set apart for him was finished. While the English language shall be written, while this Empire of the West shall furnish funds to aid hands to write, his forms will be learned and used, but as the creations of other men, but *his*. For history will watch over his right in *fine*, as one of her favored children.

In as much as it was to be my fortune that Mr. Spencer during twenty years should be my friend, mine a faithful parent to his, and many qualities not essentially convertible in a common pursuit, a common possession of both, why should I not furnish this tribute, partial, feeble and imperfect though it be, in memory of the services and exhortations of my preceptor and friend.

Holding, therefore, what Mr. Spencer created in as authorship *merely his*, and not *his sacred his memory and his fame*. These I hand over to our common country, in her hands let them remain forever.

Ringsville, July 17, 1878.

My First Experience.

BY THE VETERAN CAPTAIN.

My first attempt to teach a writing school occurred in the fall of 1845, in a northern town in New Hampshire. At that time steel pens were not known, and quills were furnished by the pupils for the master to cut and make into pens. They also furnished the paper and ink. The paper would consist of all kinds and sizes and the ink would be of several shades and colors. Altogether there was variety at first in many books with engraved copies were not known, and quills were depended upon their school teachers for the necessary copies and instruction.

Finding it necessary to do something for a living, and being considered a pretty good penman for a boy of eighteen, I executed a few "specimens" of my hand-writing, consisting of a few florished capitals, an eagle of the old style, a swan and a pen, and a few lines of plain writing as a heading for the subscription list for a school. With these I began to look about for victims, and in the course of a few days I secured the names of

nine boys on the paper. They were taken in with the excuse that I was not a "regular" teacher, and I was to be paid for my tuition to use the school house free of charge. I kept the boys good natured and they kept me busy making and mending their goose quill pens.

During the twelve lessons, I learned as much as they did, not only in writing, but also to impart what I did know to them. This experience was worth a great deal to me afterwards.

Having the notice that they needed a writing master more in Vermont, than they did in New Hampshire, I prepared for a winter campaign. I laid myself out on some new specimens, put them in a portfolio, and carried my chest what I did know to them. I bag and strapped out for a large town on the river. It was a tramp. I had only a few dollars in money, but plenty of confidence, in fact, too much. I walked eighteen miles that day, only to be disappointed the next. I lodged at the hotel the night and in the morning found another writing master canvassing the towns for a school. He was one day ahead of me. I then determined to strike into the interior, and by dark had crossed the Green Mountains. I stayed over night in a small village, my funds began to look rather small and the town I was aiming for was ten miles away. It had rained during the night and the road was muddy; yet I knew I must succeed somewhere, and I traveled on, and then getting a ride with a farmer for a mile or two. "Distance lends enchantment to the view." I began to see that the larger the town the more the prospect for success, to one with so little experience as myself.

I slept that night in a store, with the clerk whom I happened to be acquainted with. He kindly invited me to help myself to crackers and cheese which I gratefully accepted. When I began to talk about a writing school, I found there had been a teacher ahead of me, and that the town I was aiming for was all my economy, funds were getting lower. I began to live on crackers and cheese and eat them as I went along, as time was money in my case.

I arrived at another town and made the usual inquiries with the usual success; some one had been there only a short time before. I began to become discouraged. I had no money was nearly gone. I heard of a small town about five miles distant and pressed on. Just as I walked up to the only "tavern" in the place, the boarders were sitting down to supper. I had walked over fifty miles, had eaten but one square meal in two days; was weary and hungry, and I had no money to pay for a room. I assumed a cheerful appearance, but it took good acting, and inspired respect of board and lodging. It appeared reasonable as I was very hungry. I took my seat at the table and did simple justice to the whole-some fare. After supper I left better and determined to succeed in getting a class in that village as I could go no farther.

I made my business known, exhibited specimens, and received some encouragement, in words at least. The next morning I started out in company with a young lad I showed me the houses where there were young people living and was likely to attend a writing school. By persistent and de-vote efforts I got the names of about the same number of boys I had in my first class, and by commencing at once, I finished the course of lessons in a little over two weeks. The receipts from this class just covered expenses. During all this time I kept my mind on the subject, and let my own know I was on short of money. Not having much to do during the day except writing the copies and mending the pens, I visited and prospected the adjoining towns for my next venture. On one of these excursions, while returning on a lonely horse and foot, I was overtaken by a stormy period in a fearful snow-storm. Flung generally win, and by the time I had finished this class, I had another engaged in a town about five miles distant. It was composed of a large number of boys and girls, and young ladies and gentlemen.

During this time I was not overburdened but in with deep snow and blustering weather, but that did not prevent them from coming. It was their season for fun, and well they knew how to use it. The well-to-do farmers' sons and poor cheek daughters, within two or three miles

of the village, would come in with their two horse wagons well filled with a jolly crowd who would not mind the weather.

When the term closed I had given such good satisfaction that another class, larger than the first, was secured, and conducted with the same success. All this time I was improving my own writing and gaining valuable experience in teaching.

Having a natural talent for discipline, the largest schools gave me no trouble, although sometimes containing mischievous elements, the girls being the worst for a young man to manage. I found a few more classes during the winter, and when the snow was going and spring came, I took up my carpet-bag and portfolio, and re-crossed the mountains on foot, making fifty miles in two days. During those winter months I spent in the State, I enjoyed nearly all the pleasures that are usual at that time of the year, the hospitalities of the farmer, his sons and fair daughters, donation parties at the minister's, apple pairings, sleigh rides and balls.

I wish to testify, even after so many years have elapsed, to their generous hospitality, their general intelligence and proverbial integrity. Happy may they ever be among the people of this beautiful valley of Vermont. I doubt that any teacher of penmanship of the present day in that State would find the opportunities to enjoy himself as I did then, one third of a century ago.

The Practice of Criticism.

BY PAUL PASTOR.

To a young man just entering upon the road of his life, the duties of his "work," or habit is more useful, where formed, than the practice of criticism. There are so many grievous imperfections, and even falsehoods, in that which a too generous charity pronounces perfect; so many morally and intellectually unsymmetrical characters on the pages of life, that it seems as though all so early had melted away with the smoke of a Puritan father's rude fireplaces, and that the golden age of freedom had indeed come, bearing with it a mirage and a charm which causes all things to take upon them the beauty and purity of a vision in the desert. Amid all this confusion of impressions before these beautiful looking shores toward lands of joy and ease, is it any wonder that a young man is grievously tempted to forego the rigors of self-examination, and leave the estimation of his character and work to a smiling and lenient world? And yet, what vital fact is more evident than that, if a man has no charity on his side for the lack in a man, nor mercy for him a fame and a memory such as, in his fond delusion, he imagines he shall gain without toil or care? The world may tolerate selfishness, yes, even smile upon it, but it can never reward it.

How necessary then, it becomes for each of us who are striving for a noble aim, a noble place in life, to ignore the seeming praise of a world which does not condemn, and seriously set ourselves to discover wherein we lack. Not that I would deny true merit and its true recognition and praise. Let us be thankful that there is yet a full and clear distinction between selfishness and unselfishness, and that yet our vanity often leads us to shut our eyes to this which we know so well, and to accept for true praise what we are very well aware is false and unmerited.

Self-criticism is the first duty of a man, young or old. We never pass our pupils in silence. That it is a hard duty, none can deny; that it is a necessary duty, all will admit. Self-criticism implies: First. A careful examination of our motives and purposes. Second.—A rigid scanning of our work, as we do it. The examination of our motives and purposes is a higher science than most of us are inclined to take into practical view. We all pore over our texts and text-books on this subject, but very few of us are ready to meet the question of our stern teacher, conscience. And yet, if we could only bear in mind that there is no hope of graduation from the school of discipline until the fair future of success until we take into practical view. We all pore over our texts and text-books on this subject, but very few of us are ready to meet the question of our stern teacher, conscience. And yet, if we could only bear in mind that there is no hope of graduation from the school of discipline until the fair future of success until we take into practical view. We all pore over our texts and text-books on this subject, but very few of us are ready to meet the question of our stern teacher, conscience. And yet, if we could only bear in mind that there is no hope of graduation from the school of discipline until the fair future of success until we take into practical view.

men, otherwise notoriety will be your highest reward in the ladder of success.

A rigid scanning of one's work is a duty secondary to examination of one's motives only in order. It follows naturally and unavoidably from the former, and is, in fact, its visible and outward expression. A conscientious man is almost invariably a good artist, and a good artist, but the object of careful attention to one's manner and kind of work is twofold—as the highest mental culture, and as the best and surest means for improving the quality of that work. The first consideration leads us to the variety of motive and purpose, the second brings us to the real and practical theme of this essay.

Self-criticism as a means of professional improvement is a subject on which volumes would be trivial. All the importance and necessity of the duty could never be written or said. Every life presents a thousand instances of it, either as the hand-maiden of splendid success, or, when neglected, the sombre companion of eternal failure. Innumerable are the phases, the lights and shadows, surroundings and distances, of this living picture. No camera could contain them all, no eye drink in the variety of their forms. And yet, how often, how often might serve to direct your thoughts to this unbounded theme, and in so doing lead you to discover many peculiar and beautiful relations, which can never be less diverse than personal!

Criticism of one's own work fits one for application of one's own resources. In no other way is it possible for the mind and heart to lead and so lead clearly each other's depths. Self-criticism develops a logical faculty in the mind. One's previous impressions rise up to refute their accusers; and before the matter is satisfactorily settled, one will have passed through a regimen of intellectual trial which will probably have opened the eyes and released the thought and imagination hitherto unknown. Self-criticism is often wholesome self-punishment. Shame, disappointment, and regret are often valuable lessons in the great school of life. A chapter once learned with tears, though blurred and dim be the page where our sorrow fell, will never be forgotten, and from the tears and lament of discipline in self-criticism whose bitterness is only equalled by their mighty influence as life inspiring elixirs.

Finally, self-criticism capacitates one for the criticism of others; and upon this thought I would round out my subject with a few words.

The criticism of others should never be attempted until one's conscience endorses the justice and value of our own criticisms upon ourselves. An artist ought never to put a picture upon the market which he is ashamed to see hanging in his own studio. For how can amateur, thoughtless criticisms be other than selfish and unjust!

Again, one ought never to criticize his brother unless they have something in common, some bond of sympathy by which they may understand each other. If your methods are altogether different from your fellow-artists, you have no right to criticize their production. Adopt their methods, and you must be kind and careful with others, as you would be with yourself.

How to Achieve Success.

Young men should awake to the grand possibilities of achieving competence, wealth, success! The world is theirs!—as much of it, at least, as they can conquer! Didst ever, a little time, a small ordinary and the greatest barrier is surmounted! Faith, effort and time are at command, but what is the *outlay*? It is tuition, simply with which to buy salable qualifications; for it is an axiom, that if we would buy, we must have something to sell. This is the law, the axiomatic law of business. Young men, the practical qualification is a product as merchantable as flour, cotton, or cloth! An outlay, indeed, of one hundred dollars tuition, for a complete business education at Folsom's Business College, yields boundless returns, in salaries from \$500 to \$1500 the first year, and a steady growth of business. Young men, the day of age business paralysis is soon to pass away, to be succeeded by halcyon days of financial prosperity, in which you may, with proper business qualifications, finally achieve certain success.—E. G. Folsom.

Ode to Writing.

How justly bold, when in mine Master's hand,
The Pen at once joins Freedom with Command!
With enticings sweet, with Ornaments outwaid;
Loves me to Propagate, and with Necessity pleads;
Not a word; yet full, complete in every part;
And useful, and kind, not affecting AWE.

Presentation to P. R. Spencer, on His Sixty-second Birthday.

From our Scrap Book.

Quits a pleasant affair came of at the *Log Writing Seminary* beyond friend and fellow-citizen P. R. Spencer, in Geneva, on the occasion of the sixty-second birthday (1861) of its proprietor, the author of the *Spencerian System of Writing*—a system more current than any other in our country, and its merits appreciated even with the Anglo-Saxon race and language. His celebrity as a preceptor, it seems has drawn around him a class, fitting for teachers, hailing from six different States and from Canada. This class, unknown to Mr. Spencer, had at a previous meeting, prepared for the presentation by appointment of a committee of right, to wit: S. D. Clark, of Ia.; W. G. Hooker, of N. Y.; C. E. Taylor, of Pa.; Fr. Granger, Mich.; Miss M. E. Brown, O.; Miss M. Wheeler, Ky.; and S. Annabel, C. E.; to arrange material, and prepare a suitable address, electing E. Adams, of Ia., chairman of the meeting, in absence.

On Friday, at 3 p. m. the chairman announced the design and desire of the class and Mr. Spencer vacated the school for their untrammeled action, whereupon S. D. Clark addressed Mr. Spencer as follows:

Respected and Esteemed Teacher:

It has been truly said that those alone are really great who have labored successfully for the benefit of their fellow-men, and have left the world the better for their having lived. Foremost among these stand the inventors of writing and printing, and those who have assisted largely in bringing these nobles of arts to their present high state of perfection. To them the poet, the philosopher, the historian, owe their immortality. And who can portray the unimagined condition of the human race were the vast results of these sister-inventions today blotted out of existence.

This was a beautiful thought of the ancients, and scarcely less true than beautiful, that an art so feebly as writing, one destined to tread mankind from the midnight darkness of barbarism, into the bright noonday of civilization which now floods the world with a blaze of glory, could be the work of Deity alone, and instead of a discovery of man's, it was taught him from a higher sphere.

"When the east upon words of fame,
The sunbeams faded, and brevity our line,
The story of ages came,
And ending here, we were to live."
A strain was heard where wisdom dwelt,
And the great gifts of heaven were given,
While thoughts exulting from her shrines,
Upgraded with music in requirer there.

"And reason led us quickly how,
Her sacred instructions laid,
And we were taught to write, and light her row,
And watch to lose the distance here,
To find the light, the waiting light,
And the glory that is given,
And the end of every age,
To the love and light of heaven."

"History her glowing lines to thee
And bids thy name in glory rise
The first great noble, who did a deed,
The chase through a universe,
The world's glory built the palace,
Of inspirations to thee given,
And the end of every age,
To the love and light of heaven."

"And now these sweet climes have rang
With the voice of noble men,
Till-linging on the echoing tongue,
The world's glory built the palace,
Of inspirations to thee given,
And the end of every age,
To the love and light of heaven."

"Of these who have labored with marked
success in raising writing from what we
have shown us to be its rude beginning,
to the 'thing of beauty' which greet us
from the written page, few occupy so
enviable a position as the author of the
Spencerian System, and while writing in the
past, we feel, that in your pen, you point,
studying the culdous forms and combinations
of beauty displayed in wave and leaf and
flower and running stream, culled from
nature's rich pages forms of grace and ease
deduced in after years to mould new
forms of a nature, you were laying the
foundation for that monument to your genius,
carved out by the labors of your paper years—
a monument as enduring as the love for the
true and the beautiful implanted by an all-
wise Creator in the human breast."

History gives us a few instances in which
those who have labored for the good of their
race have been duly appreciated in their own
day, and have lived to reap the rewards of
their efforts in the blessings of their fellow
men; Socrates, for his lessons of wisdom was
professed the poison cup; Columbus, for
giving a new continent to the world, received
the tribute of poverty and exile; and Milton,
the illustrious author of these, unequalled
works, had to seek in after years the home
due to his almost God-like genius. But,
living in a more enlightened age, you are
blessedly spared to see your system, the result
of years of careful study, not only the
acknowledged standard in this country, and
bidding fair within your lifetime to become
the only system taught here, but also being
adopted in foreign countries wherever the
English language is spoken or taught.

Few men can look back upon a life's labor

What is said of The Journal.

J. G. Brown, Randolph, N. Y.: "It is a most excellent publication."

W. A. Chess, Brownsville, Mich.: "It gets better and better. What next?"

G. R. Baltham, Omaha, Neb.: "Your paper is appreciated wherever it is read."

E. L. Boggs, Charleston, W. Va.: "I would not do without it for ten times its cost."

H. Brown, Columbia, Ill.: "No penman who knows its value will be without it."

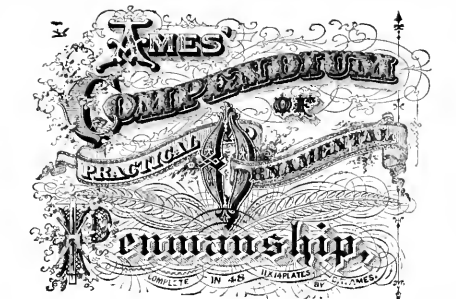
H. E. Blackman, Worcester, Mass.: "If it cost double the money I would subscribe."

J. Q. Overman, Pea, Ohio: "It is worth more to me than any other paper I ever read."

C. Bailey, Principal Commercial College, Duluth, Minn.: "I am delighted with your Journal. Long may it live and prosper."

G. T. Olinger, Staington, Pa.: "The Journal is very interesting. Just what we have long needed."

J. B. Candlish, New Orleans, La.: "My admiration and delight augments with each succeeding number."



This work is universally conceded by the press, professional penmen, and artists generally, to be the most comprehensive, practical, and artistic guide to ornamental penmanship ever published. Sent, post paid, to any address on receipt of \$5.00, or as a premium for a club of twelve subscribers to the JOURNAL.

so signally crowned with success, for you have not only wrought an entire and happy revolution in the writing of the country, but have raised your favorite art to the full dignity and importance of a science.

Several of our number have already gone forth upon their important mission as teachers of the *Art Specimen*, for which you have so well prepared them, and others seek to follow, but we are assured that we feel the sentiments of every heart, when we say that we shall ever look back upon the hours passed under your instruction as among, not only the most profitable, but most pleasant of our lives; and whatever the varied conditions in life assigned us by the fickle goddess Fortune, you will ever be gratefully and affectionately remembered. And, as a slight token of our high esteem for your character, of our appreciation of the unwearied efforts you have made to promote our advancement, and of gratitude for the good boon you have conferred upon us in common with all who write our noble language, in giving to the world your unequalled system, we have of the class, beg to accept this token, embracing the inimitable works of Milton, assured that with your well known potent thoughtless few can so highly appreciate the beauties of the greatest of modern poets, as our honored presence, as a teacher of the class.

The volume presented was of the largest print, of brass, beautifully gilt binding, and cost \$8.

Mr. Spencer responded appropriately to the action of his esteemed students, and thus of a feast of reason, and a flow of soul, it was crowded into an hour, constituting a beautiful spot in the pathway of all, and on which all will look back with emotions of pleasure.—*Atchabula, O., Telegraph.*

SANDY HOOK, CT., Oct. 18, 1878.
D. T. Ames.

Your Compendium of Ornamental Penmanship received, it is the most beautiful and valuable book for penmen I ever saw, and I have a number of others to judge from.

Yours truly,
I. F. BLACKMAN, PENMAN.

Zerah C. Whipple, principle of Home School for Deaf Mutes, New-Haven Conn.: "I am delighted with it. Every teacher and all others who are interested in good penmanship should come forward to get all publications on the subject of penmanship. I find the Journal most luminous and interesting."

C. R. Runkle, Chicago, Ill.: "The PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL is such a publication as the art which it advocates demands. It is able and beautiful, and should be in the hands of every teacher as well as admirer of the art."

J. C. Miller, Penman at the Keystone Building, Philadelphia, Pa.: "I have read all publications on the subject of penmanship. I find the Journal most luminous and interesting."

J. C. Russell, Joliet Business College: "I am more than pleased with its fine appearance, and it certainly seems that since we have at last got the right man to be the helms, we shall have what has long been needed, a good penman's journal."

D. J. B. Sawyer, Principal of Dominion Business Institute, Ottawa, Canada: "Your paper is doing a great work by keeping up a spirit of emulation among penmen. It is whole-souled and absolutely unselfish. Such cheering generations will bless and cherish the name of Ames."

J. W. Swank, United States Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.: "Your Journal is a 'jewel.' It is the best dressed, the most fully edited, and contains more real 'hard pan' information than any other publication of its class that has been published in this country."

S. Tackard, New York: "You have shown the disposition as well as the ability and taste to give us a class paper for one dollar a year, which in point of artistic appearance and general adaptation to its work is not excelled by any publication in the country."

C. C. Bryant, President of the Buffalo Business College: "The JOURNAL is so beautifully gotten up, and so well filled with sensible and spicy matter that I feel it almost a duty to double my subscription. I need not express a hope that it will be a permanent success, for there can be no failure if you keep up the present standard."

G. A. Gaskell: "The variety of excellent fac-similes of your pen-work you are giving, as well as its choice reading matter, makes it, in my opinion, superior to any other predecessors. No penman, old or young, veterans or beginners, in the profession, can read this class of criticism without profit."

W. P. Cooper, Kingsville, O.: "I can imagine nothing more elegant or better, as well as its choice reading matter, makes it, in my opinion, superior to any other predecessors. No penman, old or young, veterans or beginners, in the profession, can read this class of criticism without profit."

It has been more and more interested in the successive issues of your JOURNAL from the first number. It seems to me to be filling an important and useful niche in the penman's library. I am only glad penmanship as an Art, but that impudently penmanship, as a commercial branch, shall be its issue. It is a journal that promotes the interests of business education, whose great importance is not fully appreciated."

Henry C. Spencer, Spencerian Business College, New York: "The JOURNAL is the medium of fresh news, useful information, best ideas of genial, clear-headed teachers, and penmen in regard to their profession, and a repository of beautiful and attractive illustrations of pen art from your own portrait, and others. The right of first publication, I say sincerely, I think you have the talent, breadth, taste and spirit of good will to facilitate for the management of the JOURNAL."

From the Press.

Student's Journal: "There is probably no man on the continent better qualified than Prof. Ames to conduct such a periodical. The product of his skill, and the many beautiful, and show that he is truly an American. As for the engravings, it is enough to say that Prof. Ames has charge of that department."

Gainsburg (Ill.) Republican: "It is one of the best publications of the kind ever issued."

Troy (N. Y.) Daily Press: "No professional penman or aspirant for pen honors can afford to miss the JOURNAL. It is one of the best penmen in America. As for the engravings, it is enough to say that Prof. Ames has charge of that department."

Chicographic Melody, Toledo, Iowa: "THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL is filled with very interesting reading for all friends of the art it represents."

N. Y. School Journal: "It is ably edited and skillfully illustrated. Mr. Ames is a man of high ability, and will undoubtedly make the JOURNAL the chief of its class, and a valuable aid to all teachers and pupils of writing."

Canadian School Journal: "It is a free, practical JOURNAL, devoted almost exclusively to penmanship. It is profusely illustrated, and handles the much neglected subject in a masterly manner."

Unity and Simplicity of Forms of Letters Necessary to Good and Rapid Business Writing.

Much practice in learning to write is lost by making use of a multiplicity of complicated forms of letters; but only the acquisition of a good handwriting thus made more difficult, but the subsequent practice is rendered proportionately slow and tedious.

The simple forms are not only more easily acquired, and more rapidly executed, but they are more easily read than the more or late styles; in fact, the more the more the most, are worth the less. It is as if a merchant should constantly purchase an inferior class of merchandise, and pay the high price of the best, his chances for success certainly would not be very promising.

Labor, whether of the clerk or mechanic, is rewarded according to the results it can produce. The copyist or clerk who can write one hundred words, equally as well, in the same time that another writes fifty, will certainly, other things being equal, command twice as much pay.

The rapidity with which writing can be executed, depends largely upon the simplicity of the forms of letters used, and the size of the writing. A medium or small hand is written with much more ease and rapidity than a large hand; from the fact that the pen can be carried over short spaces in less time, and with greater economy than over long ones, and can execute simple forms more easily and rapidly than complicated ones.

To illustrate. Suppose one writer to be habitually make the capital H thus:

H

which requires eleven motions of the hand to execute, and that another would be uniformly make it thus:

H

requiring only four motions of the hand. It is apparent that the difference of time required to make each cannot be less than the proportion of eleven to four, that is not all. The complicated form, consisting of many lines, some of which are required to run parallel to each other, and all made with reference to balancing or harmonizing with some one, and one requires to be made with greater care and skill than the more simple form, so that the disadvantage is even greater than indicated by the simple proportion between eleven and four.

This plan earned out through the alphabet, would be fatal to rapid and legible business writing.

Unity of forms in business writing is also very essential to rapidity and excellence. The mechanic who makes one thing a specialty, requires great skill and dispatch in his work, in fact he becomes the representative man in his vocation, so the writer who makes the use of the minimum number of the most simple forms of letters in writing, will become proportionately more skillful and rapid, than he who adopts the maximum number of the most complicated forms.

These remarks are intended to apply more especially to business and professional writing. In ornamental and professional writing, where show and beauty are of greater consideration than dispatch, variety and complexity of forms are quite proper, and even necessary.

New Drawing Books.

Frederick H. Mason, Taylor & Co., have recently published a school series of White's drawing books, revised by Professor H. P. Smith, teacher of drawing in the New York public schools, which are peculiarly adapted for use in public or private schools. They should be examined by all teachers of drawing. See advertisement on last page.

Photo-Engraving.

We take pleasure in again calling the attention of our readers to the illustrations in the present number of the JOURNAL, as fine specimens of engraving. The cuts were all made by the New York Photo-Engraving Company. We believe that their process and facilities for furnishing cuts are unequalled elsewhere in the country.

How to Prepare India Ink.

To answer to numerous inquiries upon this subject, we would say: Procure a stick of ink, of fine quality, and a sloping tray of porcelain or slate, at the end of the slope should be put to contain and give depth to the ink; put into the tray rain water sufficient to make the desired quantity of ink, and then grind the stick of ink into the water upon the sloping bottom of the tray until it becomes of the desired degree of blackness, when it is ready for use. It should be thus freely ground each day that it is used, standing over night it precipitates, or changes, so that when dry upon the paper it cracks and is easily removed by the rubber. Many inexperienced persons seek to prepare the ink by shaking and dissolving it in water; it cannot in that manner be sufficiently pulverized to either flow readily or give a solid black line. A very delicate and pleasing effect is imparted to writing and drawing by first using a light shade of ink and then retouching the shaded portions with darker ink; this will not do, however, for text designed for reproduction by either the photo-engraving or lithographic processes, these require clear, strong, black lines, and the pencil lines should be removed with soft sponge rubber.

A. J. Ricknell & Co., 27 Warren street, New York, have just issued two interesting and valuable works upon architecture, en-



F. C. Hall, of Liverpool, New York, is a fine writer.

Harp Van Biper is teaching writing at Circleville, Ohio.

T. J. Rinsinger is the accomplished superintendent of writing in public schools at New Castle, Pa.

Mr. E. Bennett is highly complimented by the Schenectady, N. Y. *Daily Union*, for his success in teaching writing in that city.

F. B. Davis, who is reported to be a skillful writer and teacher in New England, is instructing large classes in the "Old Nitting State."

L. S. Preston, is teaching large classes at Sauton and vicinity, assisted by one of his former pupils, H. W. Bearce. Both are skillful writers.

Prof. J. W. Van Sickle of the Business College, Springfield, Ohio, is writing a history of the Van Sickle Family in the United States.

Professor F. K. Fritz, an accomplished writer, and formerly editor of the "New England Star," Ansonia, Conn., is spending a season in Europe.

G. W. Michael, Valparaiso, Ind., has been a very popular and successful teacher of writing. Many of our Western Knights of the Quill are indebted to him for their skill. He encloses some superior slips of his writing.



The specimen given above is reproduced by the N. Y. Photo-Eng. Co. from flourishing and lettering by Mr. H. W. Flickinger, who is associated with J. E. Soule, in the special Normal Penmanship Department of the Bryant & Stratton Business College, Philadelphia, Pa. He is also the author of the Revised Spencerian Copy-Books, and with the Spencer Brothers as associate authors of the Revised Spencerian Copy-Books. Although this cut, so is necessarily the case with all reproductions, fails fully to present the exquisite touch and line of Mr. Flickinger's work, yet it speaks well for its author, who has for some years been justly recognized as leading this department of Penmanship in America. He has brought forth those most exquisite and matchless specimens exhibited at the Centennial, by Ivson, Blakeman, Taylor & Co. and which have since attracted so much attention and praise, at their publishing house in New York.

W. E. Dennis, at Wright's Business College, Brooklyn, New York, has just completed an exquisitely fine specimen of pen drawing in the form of a cherub surrounded with a fine wrought wreath of flowers. It is among the finest specimens we have examined.

Col. Geo. Soule, President of Soule Commercial College and Literary Institute, New Orleans, La., recently favored us with a call on his return from a visit to Europe and the Paris Exposition. He is a genial and accomplished gentleman. His institution has long maintained an enviable reputation among the business colleges of the South. Its liberality, enterprise, and correct appreciation of what is advantageous to its pupils and patrons is evidenced in the fact that it has, during the year past, furnished more subscribers to the JOURNAL than any other single institution in the country.

W. D. Speck, Barbours, Pa., sends creditable specimens of card writing.

J. M. Van Potter, Aylmer, Ont., sends a skillfully executed specimen of flourishing.

F. H. Waters, Garrettsville, Ohio, encloses a tastefully executed specimen of flourishing.

C. W. Palmer, Sullivan, Pa., sends some beautiful specimens of plain and flourishing cards.

E. L. Burnett, LaCrosse, Wisconsin Business College sends attractive specimens of flourishing.

Two most exquisitely written letters have been received during the month from Lyman P. Spencer.

F. B. Davis, Jewett City, Conn., sends superior specimens of plain, flourishing and fancy colored card writing.

J. J. Prickett, yeoman at Soule's Business College, Philadelphia, Pa., sends an excellent specimen of business writing.

J. E. Soule, Philadelphia, Pa., sends a photograph of a beautiful specimen of engraving executed at his business college.

C. N. Hamilton, New Augusta, Ind., writes a handsome letter, in which he encloses skillful flourishing and card writing.

D. R. Lillibridge, Davenport, (Iowa) Business College, sends a fine specimen of letter writing and off-hand flourishing.

A well executed specimen of flourishing and a set of off-hand capitals has been received from B. F. Cagle, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Gus Hulsizer, Toulon, Ill., sends a handsomely furnished specimen, and a fine collection of various designs of flourished cards.

H. W. Stoner, Soule's B. & S. Business College, Philadelphia, Pa., sends most easy and graceful specimens of business and card writing.

Some most elegant specimens of business writing have been received from S. R. Webster, who is teaching writing at Gregory's Business College, Newark, N. J.

Jos. Foeller, Ashland, Pa., sends a photographic copy of the Lord's Prayer in the Irish language, which is skillfully designed and well executed.

Jackson Cagle, Atlanta, Ga., writes a letter in his customary elegant style, in which he promises to furnish a specimen of his best work for the December number of the JOURNAL.

T. E. Rawson, Worcester, Mass., sends two specimens about 14½ inches skillfully done, with red, green, white, and gold inks, these cards are decorated with such tests and tests.

Thomas J. Bryant, Principal of the St. Joseph, Mo., Business College, sends a very fine specimen of flourishing, also a lithographic copy of an elegant specimen of writing as taught in his college.

H. W. Flickinger with J. E. Soule, in the B. & S. Business College, Philadelphia, Pa., sends two pens of flourishing, a reproduction from one of which will be found on another page. It will speak for itself.

Mrs. M. McGarry & Nichols, forwarded a specimen of engraving, executed in a superior manner by H. W. Kibbe, conductor of the Pen Art School, connected with their business college at Troy, N. Y.

Masters Heron and Orchard, Pupils of M. E. Bennett, teacher of drawing and writing at Schenectady, N. Y., the former sends a creditably executed landscape, the latter a somewhat elaborate specimen of drawing. Considering the age and period of instruction of the lads, they are creditable to pupils and instructor.

Gems of flourishing and exquisite card writing, accompanied with a most gracefully written letter comes from Thomas J. Stewart, yeoman at the Capital City Business College, Trenton, N. J.

W. Flickinger, whose skill he pays a well deserved compliment when he says: "I try to



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J. M. Van Potter, Aylmer, Ont., sends a skillfully executed specimen of flourishing.

F. H. Waters, Garrettsville, Ohio, encloses a tastefully executed specimen of flourishing.

C. W. Palmer, Sullivan, Pa., sends some beautiful specimens of plain and flourished cards.

THE PENMAN'S PENMANSHIP

DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICAL AND THE ORNAMENTAL IN PENMANSHIP

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D. T. ADAMS, Editor and Proprietor.
B. F. KELLEY, Associate Editor.

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Pen Art.

By G. T. FETTERING.

The most obvious advantages which the art of pen work possesses over literature is that it appeals directly to the eye, and requires no elaborate study for the appreciation of its merits or delivery of touch and beauty.

The man whose laziness, indifference, or occupation prevents him from studying a certain task which he is compelled to read, has only to look his eyes open for a brief space of time, to gain as much influence from a skilled pen specimen as his own is capable of receiving. This is an advantage which not only belongs to the pen artist as putted against the author when both are seeking public attention and patronage, but it is also an advantage which pen pictures markedly possess as a means of public instruction. The influence of a pen picture is immediate. The most talk of a pen picture is trifling; the most talk of an artist, unless he is truly, almost invariably becomes silent on entering a room where pen work adorns the walls, such as in business colleges or in rooms where artistic pen work is exhibited.

The most eminent animal painter of the present century was Sir Edwin Landseer of England. As we refer to a recent history of his work in sketches and paintings of animals which were superior to anything ever before seen, we observe that in his sketches Landseer frequently employed pen and ink in his most mature blue, with all the appliances of color. Landseer never exhibited before the public, deer and dogs more lively than those which, with a few touches of the pen are reproduced on white paper. As we refer to them we are tempted to believe that of all the instruments that can be used by the skillful artist, there is none quite so ready and unguessed as the pen.

We have in this country a very tolerable collection of tastefully designed pen pictures, and works published on the Art, both in practical and artistic pen work, which might become a powerful means for popular education, if properly exhibited and introduced through such a widely circulated medium as THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL. Its already numerous engravings in fac-simile of specimens from the best penmen in the United States, has rendered it a rare work of art, and should be liberally patronized by all the professional penmen as well as other teachers and artists. The introduction of THE PENMAN'S ART JOURNAL in all our public schools, not only for teachers but the pupils would be a powerful aid and incentive to improvements in this much neglected and instructive branch of education.

As a mental cultivation, the study of good specimens of writing is valuable, and the instructions for the student that is given with the specimens presented, with your Journal is much more so, than the specimen alone.

Of one thing I feel certain, that the Journal should be in the hands of every young lady and gentleman who aspires to any distinction as professional writers.

Form an Indication of Meaning.

By FALP PASTOR.

There are three things that attend the existence of an idea—conception, formation and expression. Thoughts are like the course of a river, first they must have their birth in subconscious strata; then they must be restrained and collected in some impervious cap near the surface; and finally they must well up into the upper world, bringing with them glaciens beauty and a freshment. And all gradings here their foundation in thought. No matter how mechanical an occupation may be, it has its essence and source in some underlying idea, without which it could never have existed. Three steps, then, are to be considered in the apprehension of any art or science: three stages of development corresponding to the three epochs in the development of an idea.

I wish to call attention to the methods of study employed by great men and great artists, as laid down in their biographies. You will notice, first, a strong, restless, cradling in the amiable—some of kind but mighty groping after that which is practically the course of life, yet intuitively familiar. Birth into this world among works is not altogether a helpless nakedness. God sends us bare, father land memories with its divine recollections of life in other spheres, where the soul existed ere it was transported to this distant Eldorado. These memories are the possession of life. It is the recognition of them which forms the first element of every life, great or small. The first stage, then, which we detect in the biographies of great men, is their unusually strong perception of latest instincts. This I speak we can call the conceptive. Gradually extending effort and the consciousness, we then perceive a submergence as it were, of intelligence, lighting up the shadowy hollows of memory, and bringing into sharp distinctness the great outlook of life. Suddenly the oppressive uncertainty and groping is removed from the story, and with the spirit of our great ideal we burst forth into the sunlight and the unadorned of an upper world. The third period of life

is its period of expression. After the instinct has been re-organized and the path which it indicates followed to its end, the work done and the course almost finished, what more natural impulse could there be than that of final and earnest review? Here, indeed, hangs the sweetest fruit of us. All that precedes this period is, in a certain sense, experimental and interrogative. Now all the questions of life are answered, and answered truly. After the hind and the blossom has come the perfect fruit.

Now, who does this hasty glance at the lives of great men teach us, one and all? In the first place, our hearts tell us that we too, are thus inspired, governed, developed. Secondly, we learn the proper sequence of acquirement and growth; and thirdly, we see systematic and in order—first re-organizing, then formulating, and finally expressing what we believe to be the actuating impulse in our individual life.

The various forms of expression by which we actualize and make practical latent ideas are always indicative of the hidden meaning which they contain. This we see, is necessary from the natural sequence in which they occur. Expression must follow conception and formation in both the ideal and real life. Especially is this truth prominent in all the arts. Direct, forcible, elaborate expressions they follow ideas so immediately and closely that the connection is to be traced to the strong. It is from this closeness of sympathy we owe the chief aesthetic charm of art. Mere form, incapable of translation into idea and emotion, would be unmeaning and vain.

Exceptions to this rule must be anomalies, not as arts, but as ideas unifying. Personal peculiarities are to be traced to the underlying principles of a man's life. They are as necessary to the expression of a man and true character as is the difference in men's faces. Standing forth prominent in an artistic work, they are to be hailed as new revelations, not despised as erratic vagaries. Many a work of art which the world now adores and reveres was once the sport of shadow critics, who saw in its bold peculiarities only a wild presumption and conceit. I could wish there were more room and charity for personal expression in the art which in our modern represents. Following of course, some recognized method, might not a young penman give some sense to his own call of fancy—be not so unemotionally letter? He certainly is not a machine. Aweaking lies behind the pen, a soul and an imagination. Why then, not exercise these, and produce that *variety* in penmanship is so sadly deficient?

Classes in Reading Writing

By H. H. MUELLER.

It is a matter of observation that very few persons, and even apt scholars, can read various kinds of hand-writing with ease and grace. Minutiae and artificialities when attempting to do so before an audience are frequent. I speak from experience when I say that nothing is more humiliating than to face an audience under such circumstances. Will my friends of making a most disastrous failure in trying to read a long-winded insurance oration, written by a certain divine, to a large and critical audience. That failure, however,

resulted in a great benefit to me, for it set me to thinking, and to work, reading various kinds of handwriting, and after much practice, I was able to read readily about anything. I distinctly recollect of one of our most prominent State officials, I will call no name, making a sad failure not long since in trying to read the credentials of delegates, which had much to do in losing him the nomination for a very lucrative and important office. The important inquiry here suggested is, how are we to secure improvement in this respect? In reply we would say that we believe a vast amount of benefit could be derived by having regular classes for practice in reading various kinds of writing; it is a surprisingly short time to can read almost any kind of writing easy and well. I have devoted at least an hour each day in my school during the last year to reading writing, and have been extremely gratified at the manner in which students learn by this practice to read various kinds of writing. This is a work for our Commercial Colleges which should not be overlooked.

Next in importance to a good handwriting, in my opinion, is the ability to read writing readily. In many of our large business houses, with a large correspondence, a large proportion of which is badly written, this ability is of great account, and often calls for the highest skill and greatest experience, to accomplish it.

Next in importance to the duty, then, of all colleges that pretend to give their students a thorough, practical education one which will meet the requirements of business in all its various points—to give this important accomplishment proper attention.

Upon this subject I have as yet seen nothing in any of the various penmen's papers but it is of sufficient importance to interest all who desire the advancement of practical education.

Writing Materials.

The materials used for writing on, says the *Edinburgh Review*, have varied in different ages and nations. Among the Egyptians, sheets of limestone, leather, linen and papyrus, especially the last, were universally employed. The Greeks used bronze and stone for public monuments, wax for memorandums, and papyrus for the ordinary transactions of life. The kings of Pergamus adopted parchment, and the other nations of the ancient world chiefly depended on a supply of the paper of Egypt. But the Assyrians, who were employed for their public and their private astronomical computations, their religious dedications, their historical annals, and even for title-deeds and bills of exchange, tablets, cylinders and hexagonal prisms of terra-cotta. Two of these cylinders, still extant, contain the history of Assyria, and the other two, shrouded from the Birs Nimroud, give a detailed account of the dedication of the great temple by Nebuchadnezzar to the seven planets. To this indestructible material, and to the happy idea of employing it in this manner, the present age is indebted for a detailed history of the Assyrian monarchy; while the deeds of Livy, the plays of Menander and the laws of Amerson, confided to a more perishable material, have either wholly or partly disappeared amidst the wreck of empires.

POEM IN HONOR OF ERAB MCKEE.

BY P. DIMA.

The following poem was written in honor of Erab McKee, Principal of the writing department of Oberlin College.

Forwell my friend, but ere we part
Let our mottoe being be
One strain resound from friendship's harp,
That will bear with waving,
My song are through thy verse
The words thou'lt never know,
That soon shall shed a lasting sheen
Upon thy noble brow.

Think not that rivalry can draw
Your footsteps, ground and high,
Or pluck one star of greatness down
From honor's cloudless sky,
When there are called by a teacher,
To dwell near his benighted throne,
Long will thy name in glory shine,
Carved high on beauty's stone.

What better gift can man desire,
When he shall view thy skill,
That thou'lt the word has wonderful power,
The pen is mightier still?
For when the voice of war is heard,
He would find hand and lung
He would find hand and lung
He would find hand and lung

Well may we judge from what is past
Of what is yet to be,
And this is but a spray that's cast
Where soon shall roll the sea,
I see thy students fast depart,
Their genes of victory war,
And salute thee with joyous heart
To all the vacant chair.

Self Assessment.

BY MARY MAPLE.

Condemn yourself to some people and it is the same as giving them an unlimited license to heap condemnation upon you. Blame yourself for this little thing or that—something in fact that is nothing at all—and you will very soon find others reminding you of these same failings as they were numerous, and of others which really are enormous, but of which you are not guilty, and of still others by insinuation of which you never dreamed. Express the slightest regret for anything said or done, of which in fact, these same persons would have believed unmeasured glory to themselves, and what a terrible sinner you are. The errors of greatness to itself errors are the very lifeblood of honor to the contemptibility of small minds. An error through an error which had its origin in great design is really not an error, though greatness may see where, in it might have won greater success, and of finer touches to what must seem to greatness an unfinished effort. Humiliation of one's efforts in the presence of littleness, or even confession of what to one's self is one's failure, is fully unmeasured—unmeasured. Cruelty one's spirit to people who have no spirits, or if any, they are so small that in sharpening a good with which they will but pierce you, and heap upon you unmeasured shame and blinding. Small minds can only see through their own narrow scope of vision, and they cannot comprehend that the subtle can be subtle, or that acknowledgment of error means anything but acknowledgment of subtle errors never even dreamed of. They confess no failures ever themselves, unless tucked out in them and thoroughly covered. They confess the very best possible thing, and excuse themselves by falsifying others. Apologies to such people are a crime against one's self. Self-assertion and envy of assumption is the only right way. If you are and more than you are on every possible occasion. Awe such persons into propriety from the pinnacle of dignity. Do not stop, mix or mingle with them as little as possible, and suffer nothing like equality. Be above them. They will leave you then, otherwise they will be above you. Equality is out of the question with impudence. It will either be above or below, and it is best to keep it far below, and look about to something higher. One can't be kind to thieves, neither can he be kind to preachers who are more dishonest than thieves. Be true to yourself. This is the way to make even values respect you. Assert your title to what is best in you, and claim the proper recognition of it. Do not ponder to fools for kindness' sake—it is outside to great propriety. Don't hear them, but hear them. This is the way to be true to truth, this is the way to be true to right, this is the way to be true to nobility every purpose and act of nobleness. Honor your

self if you would be honored and ever depreciate whatever of greatness God has given you. Remember the injunction concerning pearls before swine.

Good Writing not Properly Appreciated.

In this advanced age of education a legible and elegant handwriting is not considered of very great advantage, and the instances are few in which a graduate of any college or university is denied his diploma on account of his handwriting; any error, however illegible or illegible, being accepted as an evidence of his ability.

As a general rule, good penmanship has not been a distinguished feature of college graduates, but rather the reverse. When the rules of this accomplishment, or rather this necessity, is every sphere of life is considered, it will be obvious that the policy of this disparaging penmanship as an accomplishment of a student, is an entirely mistake one.

No young gentleman or lady's education should be considered complete without an elegant handwriting and a thorough knowledge of the art. It should be considered one of the most important and highest branches taught in every institution of learning in the land, and should be a requisite qualification of every teacher in any school or college to be able to teach it to their pupils upon scientific principles; and the teacher who is not thus qualified, is no more competent to teach even a common school than were he deficient in arithmetic, English grammar, geography or composition; and until the teachers are strictly required of every teacher, whether

business letter? How many can make a bill, draw a draft, make a note, figure an invoice, render an account, or, in fact, draw up understandingly and correctly any business papers? How many can correctly figure discounts, advance an account, settle a partnership, calculate investments, commissions or exchange? How many understand their rights and their liabilities when making sales, purchases, contracts, or investments? How many of them know what it is to endorse another's paper?

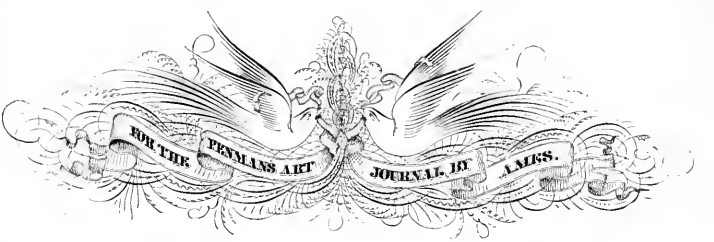
But why comment! We all know the value, the absolute necessity, of a practical understanding of these and many other matters which so thoroughly appertain to success and standing in the business world, and we must admit the value and importance of a course of study and practical training in them. An accomplished business man can avail himself of the best and easiest methods, not understandingly, and with a certainty which makes success a matter of mere possibility. He will enjoy the respect and confidence of business men, and many places of honor, trust and profit will open to him. Why is it there are always—not in dull times only, but at all times—so many idle young men and women? Is it not because they are not qualified for business? Hundreds of young men and women are always complete failures, simply because they are not competent to perform the ordinary requirements of business life. Who would trust his life in the hands of an ignorant quack? Who would trust his cow at law to an ignorant pittinger? What business man would trust his affairs to the hands of an ignorant and bung-

lingly accountant? What merchant can expect to succeed if he is ignorant of accounts and keeps no record of his transactions? Do not such men always fail? A business education as much a necessity to a business man as a medical education is to the physician. It is a great advantage to all, no matter what their calling, for there is no man or woman but has some occasion to understand business transactions and papers. A business education is too often sought simply with a view of obtaining some position as bookkeeper, as though book-keeping was the only requisite. Aside from the absolute necessity of a knowledge of accounts to every business man, the study of Commercial Arithmetic and Book-keeping furnishes the most valuable discipline, teaches the most rapid and best methods of calculating, and provides a sure and reliable guide in thoroughly understanding one's affairs. Every business man should be able to "look his books in the face" and always know the true state of affairs. The course of study should be so arranged as to meet the individual wants of each student, embracing all those branches which are of everyday use in business affairs: Penmanship, Business Arithmetic, Grammar, its Practical application, Correspondence, Business Papers, Book-keeping, Accounts, Transactions, Commercial Law, and Lectures. These should be taught not as mere theories, but by actual practice, free from all the mere clip-trap devices to take up and waste the student's time, which exist in many schools. Such a course affords an education of inestimable value to young men and women, in many respects, than a money capital. It will yield a surer and better return than the thousands of dollars and years of study so often lavished upon merely ornamental accomplishments. Give your daughters this knowledge, and then they can

A Public Servant to Be Elected.

The people of Vermont have elected, as usual, Republican State officers, and, except in one district, where a second vote is necessary, Republican Congressmen; but the main question of the course which is yet to be decided. It is not yet determined who shall represent this staunch old Republican State in a Democratic Senate—who shall stand, with Senator Edmunds, to speak the voice of Vermont against rebel claims and Democratic jobs. There are many Republicans in the State well qualified for the office which Mr. Morrill now holds, but the party will make a serious mistake, as it seems to us, if it does not return Mr. Morrill himself.

Senator Morrill belongs to a class of public servants who can exist only in intelligent communities like that for which he stands. A New England State will select and reject a representative who shows himself



public or private, the rising generation may expect to remain a student of scribbles. It is astonishing to see how little attention is given to penmanship in most of our public and private schools. In all schools pupils are often under the necessity of writing for other purposes than that of improving their handwriting, and when the writing hour comes they are furnished with a copy-book in which are perfect copies for them to imitate by a laborious process, in which the finger movement only is used, the hand turned over on the right side, or the wrist flat on the paper, with the fingers and thumb all doubled up around the pen, without any attention from the teacher being given them in regard to movement, position or pen-holding. And so the hour is spent in contracting such habits of bad writing as generally remain with them through life. JACOBUS COLE.

Atlanta, Ga.

What Is a Business Education? Who Needs It?

A very erroneous idea prevails that a business education consists simply in a knowledge of book-keeping. Such is not the fact. Important as a practical understanding of accounts to every business man and woman, yet it forms but a small part of a business education. The studies pursued at this institution are not those of our public schools, but are such as no young man or woman, hoping for business success, can afford to neglect. It is well known that a public school education is of necessity only general in its nature, and simply the foundation for some special course, to be pursued after leaving school. Take, for example, the common studies of writing and arithmetic. How many of our sons or daughters acquire either of them practically, that is, as required in business? How many can write a correct

ling accountant? What merchant can expect to succeed if he is ignorant of accounts and keeps no record of his transactions? Do not such men always fail? A business education as much a necessity to a business man as a medical education is to the physician. It is a great advantage to all, no matter what their calling, for there is no man or woman but has some occasion to understand business transactions and papers.

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honest, capable and dignified, while in a new region the same upright and worthy man might be fiercely elbowed out of the way after a term or two, in the struggle of men bent on sudden success and determined to get to Congress as well as the next man. As the State finds a Sumner or a Wilson, an Edmunds or a Morrill or a Blaine, it honors itself, as well as him, by repeated recognitions of his high qualities; and Vermont will lose an opportunity to add to its own reputation if it does not return Mr. Morrill. His service of twelve years in the House and twelve years in the Senate has been as exceptional in its character as in its length. He has always been one of the very best men in the House to which he belonged. He has always been master of all the details of legislation, especially of appropriations and financial matters, for to these he has chiefly devoted himself, and upon these he has been, successively in both houses, the leading authority. As each year goes by he is better equipped than ever before. Add to this that he is a man of great energy, of high moral character, as pure as marble, and there would seem to be reason enough why the people of Vermont should re-elect Justin S. Morrill a second time.—N. Y. Tribune.

We have personally known Senator Morrill from our earliest recollection, to the present—embracing a period of over thirty-five years, our boyhood and youth having been passed in the immediate neighborhood, and it was with no small degree of satisfaction that we read the above appropriate and truthful comments upon his character and public services. The Tribune, always true to merit, never uttered a sentiment more truthful and better deserved, or offered advice more emphatically worthy of regard than in the above article. We most heartily agree with it, and Vermont can do herself no greater honor than to continue to honor, so able, true, and long tried, a public servant, as Mr. Morrill.

Eu.

"Hill's Manual of Social and Business Forms."—Shows how to write any social epistle or business document correctly; including penmanship, plain and ornamental, with explicit directions for self-instruction and the art of teaching.

We especially refer our friends and readers to the card on 1st page, headed "Hill's Manual of Social and Business Forms," and recommend to them said work as being reliable and practical, and adapted to the wants of everybody. It is a perfect cyclopaedia of the social and business forms used in the every day affairs of life, and is alike useful to the old and young, male and female, in every condition of society.

Messrs. Kniffel & Esser, dealers in artists' materials, 127 Fulton street, New York, have recently imported a series of steel pens, graded from fine to very broad nibs, for use in text and round hand writing; we find them very practical and economizers of time in that class of work. See advertisement in another column.

System and Methods of Teaching Writing.

The following address upon "System and Methods of Teaching Writing," was delivered Nov. 7th, 1878, in Assembly Hall at Plainfield, N. J., by D. T. Ames, before a large concourse of teachers, pupils and citizens.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is not my purpose upon this occasion to make any attempt at a display of rhetoric or oratory, but to present a few plain, practical thoughts upon what is deemed to be the best system, and methods of teaching writing.

Of the great importance to all classes of a rapid, graceful, and legible handwriting I scarcely need speak. To the young man it opens more avenues to desirable and lucrative employment than any other one qualification. To a young lady it is not only a rare accomplishment, but to such as are required to earn their own livelihood, it is the one most ready and available.

The observation and experience of more than twenty-five years as student, teacher and author of writing, has lead me to believe that every person possessed of ordinary faculties can and should learn to write with facility, at least, a legible hand. That they do not, is due alike to the faults in our methods of teaching and practice. The first great fault has been with the teacher and authors of systems of writing, that they have given to the pupil to many, and to complicated forms for letters, apparently, in the belief that the more numerous and fanciful were their forms, the greater the evidence of their own skill, and deserved popularity. Not unfrequently in a single copy-book or a short course of twelve or twenty lessons has the pupil been required to practice upon from two to four distinct and radically different types or forms for all the capitals and many of the small letters of the alphabet, and all or most of these forms much too complicated to be practical for rapid business writing. We will here illustrate in the case of one letter, and this is no fancy sketch, but from a case of actual observation.* We have found all the following types of the letter R in a single copy-book, and have seen them all, and others, taught or attempted, by a teacher of writing in a short course of ten lessons.

ARRRRR



This method carried through the alphabet would require the pupil to practice upon one hundred and eighty different forms for the capitals alone, and a corresponding, though necessarily less, number for the small letters, all given and practiced often without any sort of system or science. Is it any wonder that the pupil is a discouraged failure at the end of a course of such diversified practice upon complex and multitudinous forms?

The labor and practice, necessary to become skillful in making such a multitude of difficult forms, is too great to be overcome except by rare genius, or the most persistent

* Here the lecturer rapidly gave numerous illustrations upon the black-board showing the variety and styles used for each of the several letters of the alphabet too numerous to be all represented here.

and prolonged practice. The multitude must fail; while if required to make but twenty-six of the most simple forms, and those reduced by system to seven elementary principles, the multitude can and will succeed.

Another fruitful cause of failure is found in the effort of many, perhaps most, teachers to teach writing almost or quite wholly by imitation, by which method pupils acquire little or no absolute or permanent idea of the true form or construction of letters or the general style and excellence of writing. They may succeed well at imitating their copy so long as it is before them, but fail utterly to write well when it is removed. This will not be the case when it is systematically and analytically taught; each letter being accurately analyzed, its correct form and manner of construction explained by the teacher, and understood by the pupil, at the same time that his writing is thoroughly criticised and its faults pointed out and corrected according to well established principles. Where this is done the eye and understanding is disciplined and taught as well as the hand, and there remains impressed vividly upon the mind of the pupil a clear and well defined conception of the form and construction of his copy, so that, though literally absent, to the mind's eye, it is ever present, and is a perpetual copy for the mastery of which the hand will ever strive and ultimately accomplish. Unlike the pupil who practices without system or principle by imitation, and who not only ceases to improve, but actually goes backward, when the instruction ends, and the copy is removed, the analytic pupil will continue ever to advance, and is certain, ultimately, to become a good writer.

HOW WRITING SHOULD BE TAUGHT POSITIONS.

The first care is to secure and maintain the correct positions of body, arm, hand and pen. The position at the desk or table will be governed somewhat by circumstances. In the school-room where desks are small and narrow, we think a position with the right side to the desk, thus,



will be the best.

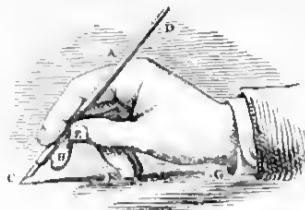
In business colleges and writing academies, where the table or desk is more spacious, and especially in the study and practice of book-keeping where the books are often large and numerous, also by artists and penmen working upon large pieces of work, the front position will be found the best, thus:



In this position the same relative position of hand, pen, and paper should be maintained as described in the former one.

Some authors and teachers have also advo-

cated a position of presenting the left side to the desk, in favor of which we have nothing to offer, for we believe either of those above described entirely preferable; yet the position at the desk is of much less importance than that the proper relative positions of the pen, hand and paper should be sustained and observed.



PENHOLDING.

Take the pen between the first and second fingers and thumb, letting it cross the forefinger just forward of the knuckle (A) and the second finger at the root of the nail (B) $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the pen's point. Bring the point (C) squarely to the paper and let the tip of the holder (D) point toward the right shoulder.

The thumb should be bent outward at the first joint, and (E) touch the holder opposite the first joint of the forefinger.

The first and second fingers should touch each other as far as the first joint of the first finger; the third and fourth must be slightly curved and separate from the others at the middle joint, and rest upon the paper at the tips of the nails. The wrist must always be elevated a little above the desk.

These positions should be rigidly maintained, thus keeping the nibs of the pen flat upon the paper, and both always under the same degree of pressure, when the pen will give a smooth, clear line, and move smoothly and easily upon the paper.

MOVEMENTS.

The positions secured, attention should be directed to movements, all of which should be explained and illustrated, the peculiar advantages and disadvantages of each set forth.

There are four different movements, more or less employed in writing.

The First or Finger Movement is most generally used and taught by unprofessional teachers, and practiced by most unskillful writers, and is so called because the fingers alone are employed in giving motion to the pen. Writing by this movement is less rapid and graceful than that by either of the other movements. It is more of a drawing process, it seems to be the most easy and natural to acquire, and being the only movement known or taught in a large majority of our public schools, it is practiced by a very large proportion of people outside of the mercantile and professional pursuits. Most of the latter have found it necessary to gain some further knowledge of writing than that acquired in our public schools, when they have either attended a commercial school or received instructions from some professional teacher of writing, and have been instructed in other movements.

The second is the Fore-arm or Muscular Movement. By some teachers it is called the Spencerian, and by others the Carstairsian, being so called after the names of two of its most noted and skillful teachers and advocates; this movement is obtained by resting the fleshy or muscular part of the fore-arm upon the desk, and then by simply contracting or relaxing the muscles of the fore-arm a very rapid, graceful and tireless motion is imparted to the hand and pen; but it is only

when combined with the finger, producing what is known as the Third or Combination Movement that it is employed to the greatest advantage. In this movement the muscles impart rapidity and endurance, the fingers accuracy of form, and ease in making the extended letters, thus rendering it, as a whole, by far the best and most desirable movement for practical writing.

The Fourth, or Whole Arm Movement, is the most graceful and rapid of all the movements; it is also, when employed on a small scale, much less accurate, and hence less desirable for practical writing. It is used to advantage only where considerable license is allowable, as for instance, in writing dates, signatures, superscriptions, black-board writing, &c. To be able to employ this move-

ment with skill requires much and continued practice. Its proper and skillful use is, however, an important accomplishment to the professional penman.

It is obtained by raising the entire arm free from the table, resting the hand lightly upon the nails of the third and fourth fingers, and then striking the letters with a full sweep of the whole arm. This movement is also used in all off-hand flourishing.

MOVEMENT EXERCISES

should be frequently and extensively practiced, and a short exercise should precede the regular practice of every lesson. Their object is threefold. First, to secure a free, graceful and rapid general movement to the fingers, muscles and fore-arm. Second, a special upward and downward motion; and thirdly, a lateral movement of the hand. To secure the first two, exercises like the following should be practiced:



To secure the lateral movement the following or similar exercises should be practiced:



The major part of the time for the first, considerable of the second and third, and a part of the time for every lesson of a course, should be devoted to careful movement exercises.

These exercises as well as all the copies of the course should be either engraved or written upon short movable slips and passed to each pupil of the class with the opening of each lesson.

We are now prepared to present the principles, and begin the analysis and practice of writing, which we do by placing upon the black-board the principles.

At the same time we briefly illustrate to the class their use and importance in learning to write, by rapidly making a few monograms embracing the entire alphabet, capitals and small letters; showing the close resemblance between the form and construction of many of the letters of the alphabet, and how very simple and easy is their construction from these principles.

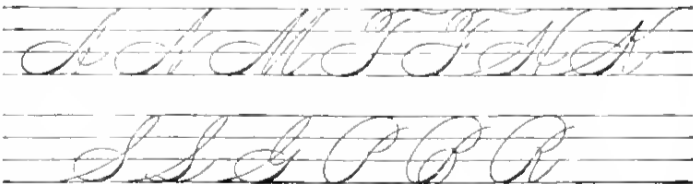
This can be very clearly and strikingly illustrated in the case of the small letters by a monogram representing them all as follows:



We then combine the capitals in three monograms, those having the fifth principle for their base thus:



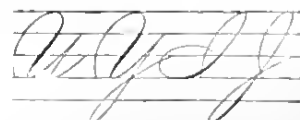
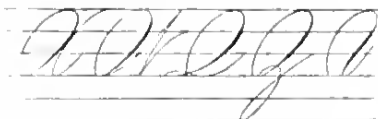
Making the letters and subsequently arranging them in groups, each embracing those letters that most resemble each other in their form and manner of construction, thus:



Monogram embracing the letters having the sixth principle as base is made as follows:



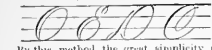
and the letters separately, thus:



Monogram of seventh principle letters would be made, thus:



and the letters, thus:

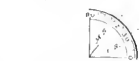


By this method the great simplicity and practicality of this plan of teaching and practicing writing is fully brought home to the mind and understanding of the pupil, and also the great importance of mastering thoroughly at the outset, these elementary forms or principles of printing. I will briefly define these principles.



No. 1 is simply a straight line, shaded or unshaded. No. 2 is a right curve. No. 3 a left curve. No. 4 combines a right and left curve to form the loop. Principle No. 5 is a direct oval, whose length is twice its width. No. 6 is an inverted egg shaped oval. No. 7 consists of an unshaded left and shaded right curve of equal length and degree of curvature. Forming a compound curve variously called, capital stem, master stroke, chirographic curve, line of beauty, &c., to which is added a left curve which intersects the other two curves at the point of their union, forming an oval. The stem slanting on an angle of fifty-two degrees, and the oval on an angle of eleven degrees. The oval should be twice as long as it is broad, so it is divided into sections it would have four spaces in length and two in width.

The correct angle of slope will be best illustrated, thus:



The class will now make this principle after a few moments' practice. Robert and several others are found to be making them thus:



While James and others are making them, thus:



Other members of the class are also making equally conspicuous faults. We now make upon the black-board strokes representing the most prominent faults of the class and illustrate. Bob has made the left curve to long and the right curve to short and not on some degree of curvature, while the second left curve discloses more a very arch than an oval, and misdirects the downward stroke below the center, and would be corrected, as indicated by the dotted lines.

After sufficient attention has been given to the analysis and practice of the capital stem, we add to it in line to make the



which we practice briefly, and then add the small letters forming a short word for a copy, all of which is written upon the black-board and analyzed before being practiced by the class. Follow this in the same manner by the class.



and so on through the alphabet—presenting the capitals in groups most similar in their construction and analysis.

By thus using a short copy we are better enabled to concentrate the entire thought and practice of the pupil upon a few points in writing at a time, which more clearly understood and thoroughly mastered than if he were to practice upon a copy embracing most of the alphabet and all the principles and characters of writing. If such a copy

*Here many useful illustrations are given upon this subject, but cannot be given in detail. The class should be encouraged to be the exception of the general rule, and then they can be corrected.

EXERCISES FOR FLOURISHING.

No. 15.



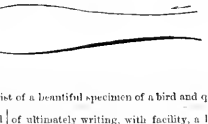
No. 16.



No. 18.



No. 17.



Our first exercise for flourishing will consist of a beautiful specimen of a bird and quill.

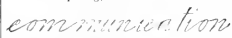
were fully analyzed so much would be said and so many points presented as to cause utter confusion, and its entire effect would be lost, and the corrections of faults too numerous to be either remembered or guarded against in subsequent practice.

Where copy-books are used having long practices, they should, in the early stages of practice, be written down the page, by sections of not more than one-fourth its length, thus concentrating the practice and criticism upon a few letters at a time. The leading faults of the class while practicing the copy should be pointed out and corrected at the black-board. General faults in writing would be corrected by writing the copy upon the black-board in such a manner as to magnify the fault, and then show how it can be best corrected. For instance, the bad effect of disproportion in the letters can be strikingly illustrated by writing the copy, thus:



Having care to make each letter, by itself, as nearly perfect as possible, showing thereby that perfect letters alone cannot make good writing. The correction of this fault can be greatly aided by ruling a guide line for the top of the letters.

At the next lesson illustrate the bad effect of uneven spacing, thus



At the following lesson we present the special beauty of a variety in slant in writing, thus:



Slant though quite different, will not be specially conspicuous in the contracted letters, but may be made to appear strikingly so by drawing extended lines through the parts of the letters, thus:



We then illustrate the essential quality of correct writing, by writing the copy correctly upon a scale, thus:



This method proceeds carefully through a course of seven twenty lessons will not fail to secure to the attentive pupil, not only marked improvement, but will so discipline his eye, and his aid of the correct forms and characteristics of good writing, that he can scarcely fail

of ultimately writing, with facility, a legible and graceful hand.

Several of the cuts used in illustrating this lecture were generously furnished by Messrs. Frison, Bickman, Taylor & Co., Publishers of the Spencerian Copy-books.

About these Times

we are on the *qui vive* for clubs, although it may be generally against human nature to submit to such *humili*, we are disposed to receive them, without a feeling akin to malice, or a thought of resentment.



I. S. Harris is teaching large classes at Wheeling, W. Va.

S. C. Malone is teaching large classes in writing at Bridgeport, West-Va., and vicinity.

Geo. G. Stearns is teaching drawing and writing in the public schools at Newport, Ky. He is a skillful writer and popular teacher.

Mrs. Van Evert, who is a very accomplished writer and popular teacher, is instructing classes in writing at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and vicinity.

J. N. Whittey, A. M., Professor of Penmanship, Book-keeping and Telegraphing at McKimber College, Lebanon, Ill., is an accomplished penman and teacher.

E. F. Pruitt, formerly of Oklahoma, N. H., is now teaching large classes in writing at Forney, Texas, from which place he sends quite a club of subscribers to the JOURNAL.

Capt. Tyler, the veteran teacher of writing in the public schools, Fort Wayne, Ind., also conducts a popular writing academy in that city. He is one of the appreciative friends of the JOURNAL.



E. R. Embley, Chicago, Ill., sends a collection of very handsome card writing.

A. C. Smith, Birg Hill, O., sends a very graceful specimen of flourishing and writing.

W. F. Dennis, Wright's Business College, Brooklyn, N. Y., sends most exquisite card writing.

S. C. Malone, Bridgeport, W. Va., sends a very skillful specimen of flourishing and some good specimens in card writing.

S. C. Webster, Grayson's Business College, Newark, N. J., sends a gem of flourishing and a superbly written letter. He is among the best.

The New England Card Company, Worcester, R. I., sends a specimen sheet of very handsome designs for New Year cards.

P. B. Hardin, Corydon, Ind., encloses in an excellently written letter, some superior specimens of off-hand and minuscule writing.

A. N. Palmer is teaching writing at Pinkerton Academy, Derry, N. H. Several fine specimens from his pen have been recently received.

Charles E. Williams, a pupil in Peirce's Normal Writing Institute, Keokuk, Iowa, sends a letter and card specimens which are very creditable.

F. M. Hinson, Happy Home, N. C., is an enthusiastic and promising young penman; he sends specimens of flourishing and writing which are very creditable.

J. W. Pierson, teacher of writing in the public schools at Mexico, O., sends an elegant specimen of flourishing and some very fine specimens of copy writing.

J. C. Miller of Leburg, Pa., sends a unique and skillfully executed specimen of flourishing. He promises to send something elegant for the JOURNAL soon.

E. L. Barnett, La Crosse, Wis., sends a fine collection of writing and of hand flourishing, also specimens of writing from several of his pupils which are very creditable.

Louis N. King, aged twelve, and Henry Kerde, aged thirteen years, pupils of M. E. Bennett, Schenectady, N. Y., send specimens of flourishing very creditable for kids of their age.

R. J. Magee, Toledo (O.) Business College, sends an elaborate and skillfully executed specimen of flourishing. Like most others, it was not properly executed for reproduction, but we must present it to the readers of the JOURNAL.

Several fine specimens of flourishing and card writing have been received from L. Madison, Rochester, N. Y., acknowledgment of which should be made in the last issue of the JOURNAL, but owing to being misplaced, failed to do so. Mr. M. certainly deserves much praise for his very fine, graceful and rapidly executed penmanship.

Jackson Cagle, of Moore's Business College, Atlanta, Ga., forwards a very beautiful specimen of flourishing and writing, designed for publication in the JOURNAL, as announced in the last issue, but owing to the extreme delicacy of his work it could not be reproduced, so as to try it on our press, so we have it ready for the January number. We trust there will be no failure next time.

Answers to



No examination of writer—unmarried with the full name and address of the writer will be entered, or published in the JOURNAL. Neither will questions, the answers of which are not of general interest, be published. No questions on writing, but owing to many subscribers, we are compelled to publish them.

Specimens which with criticism is invited should be written on a note or letter sheet, in the writer's hand and most correct style, neat and clear, and certainly no postal note, will receive attention.

T. A. G. Elgin, Ill. The salary paid to teachers of penmanship varies greatly, from \$200 to \$2,000 per annum.

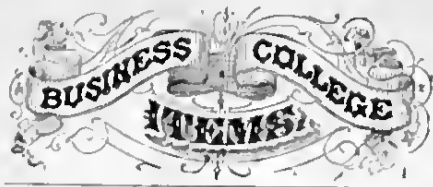
M. H. Happy Home, N. C. We cannot send the Williams specimen as a premium; we have exhausted our supply, and do not desire to print another edition.

C. T. Froelich, O., you write a very easy and graceful hand, though your writing lacks uniformity in slant and spacing, while your capitals and loops are too long for the balance of your writing.

O. C. W., San Francisco, Cal. Back numbers of the JOURNAL can be sent from and including September, 1877, at regular subscription rates. Sixteen consecutive back numbers will be sent for \$1.

G. S. St. Louis, Mo. Why have I not received the JOURNAL for the last two months? Has it suspended? Your subscription expired with the September number. In accordance with our uniform and frequently announced rule, the JOURNAL was discontinued at the expiration of your subscription. Your practice, if you should not reply to all subscribers. Subscribers who have not received it, are requested to give prompt notice.

W. W. San Quentin, Cal., your writing is good in almost every respect, less shade would enable you to execute it with greater ease and rapidly. The "should look appearance" of which you complain, will be made only by the use of the pen. The combined movement is the best for practical writing. Becker's Occasional Penmanship consists almost wholly of slanted and horizontal writing, and is of little value to you as compared with the W. & F. Guide. If your ability to teach equals the excellence of your writing, you should have no fear regarding your success as a teacher.



James N. Mitchell has recently opened a Business College at Springfield, Ill.

The *Business World*, issued by Platt R. Spencer, Principal of the Cleveland (O.) Business College, is an attractive and sensible publication.

The Burlington (Iowa) *Hawkeye*, of Nov. 23, contains a very complimentary notice of the Burlington Business College, of which W. P. Allen has recently become proprietor.

The Catalogue for 1878-9, of Eaton & Burdett's Business College, Baltimore, Md., has been received; it is got up in good taste. The college is enjoying a good degree of prosperity.

Mr. Folsom, of the Albany Business College, has recently taken as partner in his college, Mr. C. E. Carhart, formerly for two years a teacher in the institution, and since a practical accountant, in which capacity he achieved marked success. Still later he established a commercial department in a literary school, which he conducted successfully for two years. Mr. Carhart is a young man of ability and experience, and will undoubtedly make an excellent partner. His specialty will be the practical side of a business education, while that of Mr. Folsom's always has been and still will be the scientific side, which, as is well known, he has carried to a high degree of perfection. The Albany College is meeting with well merited prosperity. Mr. Folsom has long been an able and earnest worker in the cause of practical education; and we certainly wish him a constantly increasing patronage, which he so richly deserves.

Writing in the Public Schools of Newark, N. J.

Editor *Penman's Art Journal*:

DEAR SIR—I am often appealed to, to know how better results in penmanship can be attained in public schools.

In the October number of the *JOURNAL* you gave an abstract of a paper read by me before the Penman's Convention, in which I enumerated the obstacles in the way of greater success in teaching primary school children to write.

I am and have been on the alert for any suggestions looking to better results in teaching this branch.

Within the circle of my acquaintance with methods pursued in the graded schools of our cities and villages, none have so fully met my views and pointed so directly to satisfactory results as that in operation in the schools of Newark, N. J., a sketch of which I enclose, prepaid, at my request, by Prof. Torry, one of Newark's most prompt, energetic and successful principals, and through the *JOURNAL* I present it to those whom it should most concern.

The plan under the watchful eye and zealous energy of Superintendent Barringer, is a most gratifying success, and bound to be adopted in other cities when its merits become known, and I think that the time will soon come when we shall have no more indifferent methods taught by indifferent teachers in an indifferent way. When such slovenly teaching will be looked upon as a relic of the past, too deeply buried to be resurrected by any teacher, who, in the words of Rip Van Winkle, expects to "live long and prosper."

The plan as set forth by Prof. Torry is a fitting counterpoise to the very valuable article in the October number of the *JOURNAL* headed "Hints on Teaching Writing."

—Mr. Geo. H. Shattuck.

DEAR SIR—According to promise, I give briefly below our plan of examining writing in the public schools of Newark, N. J. Our Grammar and Primary Departments are each divided into four grades in all their studies. The four Grammar grades and one Primary grade write in copy books with pen and ink. We arrange at the beginning of each year, the work for each grade for each of the three terms in the year. Near the end of each term, the classes are all examined, writing upon blank paper prepared for this purpose, by a committee of five (one for each grade) who also prepare the copies which are not seen by the pupils until the hour designated for the examination to take place. If the copy consists of one line the pupils write it

from five to seven times as directed and then upon the back, write their name, date and name of their school. (The copy written designates the grade). Each pupil has but one paper and about thirty minutes to write the specimen. The copy is written on the board or dictated to the pupil according to his age or ability. The first grade, at least, should write from dictation or print.

Every pupil present on the day of examination is required to write a paper, and as soon as possible thereafter, the principal of each school sends or takes to the said committee of five, all such specimens, asserting over his own signature that all directions have been closely followed (also, whole number on register, number present, and that all wrote). Each one of the committee then takes all the specimens of a grade, and associating five other teachers with him commences the examination of the papers. The papers from the different schools are first all mixed thoroughly and then taken by the first of this team of six and examined in reference to one point only, and then passed to the second, who examines it in reference to another point, and so on to the fifth, each marking according to his judgment, twenty credits for each of the five points being the maximum. The sixth sums up the per cent of each paper, and then gets the average per cent of each school by itself.

The five points which we have had reference to are, Alignment, (proportion) Slope, Form, Spacing and Finish. (The five S's form a very good substitute for the above; *Size, Slope, Shape, Spacing and Shading*.) The papers are then returned to the principals of the schools, together with a copy of the percentage of all the grades in the city, thus permitting them to compare their own with all other schools, and give honor where it belongs. (A like copy is also deposited with the Superintendent, and on a blank prepared for the purpose so that the percentage of every grade in every school can be seen at a glance. We examined 4,500 papers each term. Some may object to this plan on account of the labor attending it, but if any one can tell me how I can have success in teaching anything that is important to know without hard labor, he will confer a favor upon one who has been teaching more than twenty-five years and has not yet discovered such a way. We have pursued this plan for two or three years and the writing has steadily and rapidly improved.

I can appreciate the force of Prof. Torry's remarks in regard to hard labor, had I presented this plan as a theory, the apparent labor would have prevented a trial. I am happy to present a successful success.

The committee of five, I understand to be usually five principals, and as each examines only one grade, no chance for favoritism can result. I presume the five associated with these five principals may be five teachers selected from their own schools.

Any city, not employing special teachers of writing, or union school having a better plan than the one mentioned above I should be most happy to hear from, and at a future date present the same to the readers of the *JOURNAL*.

G. H. S.

What Voices Indicate.

There are light, quick surface voices that involuntarily seem to utter the saying, "I won't do to tie to." The man's words may assure you of his strength of purpose and reliability, yet his tone contradicts his speech.

Then there are low, deep, strong voices, where the words seem ground out as if the man owed humanity a grudge and meant to pay it some day. That man's opponent may tremble and his friends may trust his strength of purpose and ability to act.

There is the coarse, boisterous, dictatorial tone, invariably adopted by vulgar persons, who have not sufficient cultivation to understand their own insignificance.

There is the incredulous tone, that is full of a covert sneer, or a secret "you can't dope me, sir," intonation.

Then there is a whining, beseeching voice that says "sympathize" as plainly as if it uttered the word. It cajoles and flatters you; its words say, "I love you; I admire you; you are everything that you should be."

Then there is the tender, musical, compassionate voice that sometimes goes with sharp

features and sometimes with blunt features, but always with genuine benevolence.

If you are full of affectation and pretence, your voice proclaims it.

If you are full of honest strength and purpose, your voice proclaims it.

If you are cold and calm and firm and persistent, or fickle and foolish and deceptive, your voice will be equally truth-telling.

You cannot change your voice from a natural to an unnatural tone without its being known that you are so doing.—*Boston Transcript*.

Pleasant Paragraphs Pertaining to Penmanship.

PILLFERED BY PENSTOCK.

A feline and disagreeable letter—Cat R.

How to acquire shorthand—Fool around a buz saw.

Lost at sea—The boy that didn't know his alphabet past B.

Benjamin Franklin said that he owed his first success in life to his good handwriting.

Napoleon Bonaparte rewarded his writing teacher by giving him a pension for life.

Queen Elizabeth wrote a good, plain hand, and was an admirer of good penmanship.

What kind of tracing paper does a man use when retracing his steps?

"That boy will make his mark in the world some day," said a parent of his dullest child. So he did—he never learned to write.

Why is the letter q the handiest in the alphabet? Because when it is in use you always find it before u.

Bryant wrote in his old age a hand as neat as that of a writing master. It was small but it was clear, and the flourish was that of a man who was alive.

The good people of Williamstown, Vt., were appalled, the other day, by the following dreadful writing on the wall: "I am ready to castrate your hair SE."

"What do I think," replied the young hopeful, eyeing the chiography in a critical manner, "Why, I think the president writes a good hand for so old a man."

EXTRAVAGANCE PUNISHED. A lawyer wishing to rid himself of an obnoxious clerk, discharged him on account of his waste of time and ink, occasioned by crossing his t's, and dotting his i's.

"Tis strange that men
Who guide the plough should fail
To guide the pen!
For half a mile the furrows even lie,
For half an inch the letters stand awry."
—Crabbe.

"The pencil made by Faber
'S more potent than the saber."

But a *Star* poet sings.

The pencil made by Dixon
'S far better for to fix on.

"What do you think of that," cried an excited parent to his son as he held before his eyes a letter from the president of a college that his son was attending, announcing his suspension for wild behavior.

A Louisville journalist suggests that as the most of the writing in newspaper offices is done with a lead-pencil, that the remark made many years ago, and so often quoted, that "The pen is mightier than the sword," should be altered so as to read:

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The following are a few of the many flattering notices from the press and patrons.

You have certainly taken a long step in advance of other authors. You have not only furnished alphabets and material for the use of penmen and artists, but you have combined that material into the most beautiful and artistic designs for resolutions, memorials, testimonials, title pages, &c., thus placing before penmen and others what has long been needed. No penman having once seen this work will willingly be without it.—*Prof. C. E. Galy, New York*.

We have never seen a work containing so many alphabets and designs of exquisite beauty. The volume becomes at once a standard compendium of practical

and ornamental penmanship. We heartily commend this great work to our friends who seek the best designs.—*National Journal of Education*.

Its special advantage over other publications of writing is in the process through which you exhibit the penman's instead of the engraver's art. It evinces great care in preparation and thorough knowledge of the field you occupy.—*Prof. S. S. Packard, New York*

I consider your *Compendium* a valuable contribution to the list of penmanship publications; on which justly exhibits not only the author's talent, but the prevailing taste and genius of our times.—*Prof. H. C. Spencer, Washington, D. C.*

It gives us all the old chiographic effects and new patterns. Whoever wishes to learn the mystery of fine and heavy lines, flourishes and all wonderful pen abstractions will find as much as he is likely to master.—*New York Tribune*.

I think it far superior to any work of the kind yet published. It meets the wants of every live penman; no energetic worker can afford to be without it.—*Prof. A. A. Clark, Newark, N. J.*

Penmen and artists have here specimens of almost every kind of work that can be done with the pen. Considerable artistic power and remarkable skill is shown all through the work.—*Publishers' Weekly*.

It exceeds in extent, variety and artistic excellence, as well as in its peculiar adaptation for the use of penmen and artists, any work we have ever examined.—*New York School Journal*.

We have no hesitation in pronouncing it to be in advance of all the works upon the subject ever produced. No penman or student can afford to be without it.—*The Penman's Help*.

I cannot express my opinion. I can only say it is immense, and no progressive penman in America can afford to be without it.—*Prof. L. Asire, Red Wing, Minn.*

It contains an almost endless collection of designs adapted to the practical department of ornamental penmanship.—*Prof. A. H. Hinman*.

It is one of the finest publications of this class which has ever come under our notice.—*The Manufacturer and Builder*.

I expected to see a very valuable work. It greatly exceeds my highest expectations.—*Prof. T. R. Southern, San Francisco, Cal.*

I am delighted with it. It is the most complete work of the kind I have ever seen.—*Prof. W. C. Sandy, Troy, N. Y.*

It is one of the most elaborate and artistic works illustrative of this art ever published.—*American Bookseller*.

It is a work of great practical merit, peculiarly adapted for the use of penmen and artists. It covers the field of pen art more fully than any other work I have ever examined.—*Prof. Thos. B. Dolbear, New York*.

It is certainly the book of all books upon the art of penmanship.—*Prof. G. C. Stockwell, Newark, N. J.*

It is remarkable for its scope, variety and originality.—*Prof. C. C. Curtis, Minneapolis, Minn.*

I find it even more than I anticipated, which was something excellent.—*G. C. Cannon, Boston*.

The art of penmanship is triumphant in Mr. Ames' book.—*New York Evening Post*.

The *Compendium* is a beautiful thing.—*Prof. D. L. Musselman, Quincy, Ill.*



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